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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

OFFICIAL REPORT

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(Part I—Questions and Answers)

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THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
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Wednesday, 5th August, 1953.

The House met at a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

URANIUM-THORIUM FACTORY

*130. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work of the proposed Uranium-Thorium Factory has been taken in hand and if so, any progress made;

(b) by what time the construction of the building and the installation of plants, machinery and equipment are likely to be completed;

(c) what is the estimated expenditure for this purpose;

(d) what is the capital outlay on the factory;

(e) whether any foreign experts are being associated with the working of the factory; and

(f) if so, who are they and what will be the terms on which they are so associated?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes, Sir. The land has been levelled up and foundations are being dug.

(b) Towards the end of 1954.

(c) and (d). The capital expenditure on the project is estimated at about Rs. 45 lakhs.

(e) No, Sir,

(f) Does not arise.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि इस फैक्टरी की सलाना पैदावार की क्या मिकदार होगी ?

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : करीब सवा दो सौ टन थोरियम नाइट्रेट इस फैक्टरी द्वारा बनाया जा सकता है ।

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : विशेषज्ञ किस देश से आ रहे हैं और उन के साथ क्या शर्तें हैं ?

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : मैं ने जवाब में बतलाया है कि विशेषज्ञ कोई बाहर से नहीं आ रहे हैं ।

Shri Meghnad Saha: Will the hon. Deputy Minister kindly inform the House whether the Atomic Energy Commission publishes any report of its annual work?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The construction has just begun. As I said, the land has been acquired and foundations are being laid. When the time for publishing any progress report comes, certainly reports will be submitted through proper channels.

Shri V. P. Nayar: What are the products of this factory and will any of them be exported to foreign countries?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: That is a question which has not yet been considered, perhaps.

Shri Damodara Menon: Where is the factory to be located?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: At Trombay, near Bombay.

Shri Damodara Menon: Why did the Government decide to locate the factory at Trombay and not in Travancore-Cochin?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: As the scientific process involved in the manufacture of these products requires constant observation and research, it was considered necessary to locate the plant somewhere near the Atomic Energy Commission headquarters.

Shri Damodara Menon: May I know whether the Government of Travancore-Cochin was consulted before the location of this factory was decided upon?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: All necessary steps were taken before the location of this factory.

Shri Meghnad Saha: Is it not a fact that in England and other countries atomic energy factories are scattered throughout the country and not located at an industrial centre?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I take the information from the hon. Member.

Shri Kelappan: May I know where the raw materials for this factory are available?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The raw materials of this factory will be available from Alwaye.

SYNTHETIC RICE

*131. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director of Food Technological Research Institute who had undertaken a journey to U.K. and the continent of Europe to study in detail the possibility of large scale production of synthetic rice, more particularly the nature of equipment required, its cost, and working conditions etc., has been able to come to any definite finding;

(b) if so, what are the prospects of the establishment of a large scale production factory of synthetic rice; and

(c) by what time is the scheme likely to materialise?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The answers to these questions are contingent on the decision Government may take on the Director's recommendations which are receiving Government's urgent consideration.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि जो डाइरेक्टर साहब यूरोप भेजे गये थे इस काम के वास्ते क्या वह लौट आये हैं और क्या उन्हों ने रिपोर्ट सबमिट कर दी है, और अगर कर दी है तो उस का क्या फल हुआ है ?

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : मैं ने अर्ज किया कि उस रिपोर्ट पर तो गवर्नमेंट गौर करेगी और बहुत जल्द फैसला करेगी। वह वापस आ गये हैं और उन्हों ने अपनी रिपोर्ट दे दी है।

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या इस फक्टरी के बनने की सम्भावनाओं के बारे में उनका विचार अच्छा है ?

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : जी हां, मैं ने अर्ज किया कि उन की सिफारिशें जो अभी गवर्नमेंट के सामने हैं उन का सारांश यही है कि जो मशीनें इस समय बाहर हैं उन में मुनासिब संशोधन किया जा सकता है ताकि चावल के दाने यहां बन सकें।

श्री एस० सी० सामन्त : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय बतला सकते हैं कि दूसरे देशों में कौन कौन कच्चा माल इस्तेमाल किया जाता है और जो मशीनें वहां इस्तेमाल होती हैं वह यहां काम आयेंगी या नहीं ?

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : इस प्रकार के चावल को अभी किसी दूसरे देश में बनाने का आयोजन हुआ है यह मुझे नहीं मालूम है। यह तो यहां की योजना है। जो मशीनें इस वक्त मौजूद हैं वह और प्रकार के खाद्य पदार्थ बनाती हैं। यही बात देखने के लिए डाइरेक्टर साहब बाहर गये थे और मालूम हुआ है कि जो मशीनें आज मौजूद हैं उन में ऐसा संशोधन किया जा सकता है कि हमारे पदार्थों के मिश्रण से चावलों के दाने यहां अच्छे प्रकार से बन सकेंगे।

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: May I know whether the Indian Council of Medical Research have advised against the production of synthetic rice?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No, Sir.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या यह जो कृत्रिम चावल बनाया जाने वाला है उस में स्वाभाविक चावल के सब गुण रहेंगे या कि वह सिर्फ देखने में ही चावल के माफ़िक रहेगा ?

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : जो पदार्थ बनाने की योजना है उन के लिये वैज्ञानिकों ने यह बतलाया है कि उन में चावल से ज्यादा पौष्टिक पदार्थ हैं।

Shri Muniswamy: May I know, Sir how far the experiments on synthetic rice in the Central Food Technological Research Institute in Mysore have progressed?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: They have made sufficient progress. But some experiments are being carried on, because before final production the proper cooking qualities of the rice have to be attained.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: What cost did Government incur in sending the Director of the Food Technological Research Institute abroad?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I have no information just now.

श्री आर० एम० सिंह : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि मंत्री जी ने इस चावल का स्वाद लिया है ?

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : जी हां कई बार।

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: When the Director visited Europe did he purchase any equipment for the production of synthetic rice?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The Director went to Europe to examine the possibilities of purchasing such machines and their adjustment to our needs.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : किन किन पदार्थों से यह चावल बनेगा ?

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : इस प्रश्न का उत्तर तो मैं पिछले सदन में दे चुका हूं लेकिन माननीय सदस्य की सूचना के लिए यह बतलाऊंगा कि जो कच्चा पदार्थ ऐसे अन्न के लिए इस्तेमाल किया जा रहा है वह टैपिओका है और मूंगफली है।

Shri Meghnad Saha: Why is it called synthetic rice?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: People have started calling it so.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जब तक यह मशीनें यहां आकर काम करने लगेंगी उस के पेश्तर क्या इस देश में उस किस्म का चावल बनाया जा रहा है। यदि हां, तो कितनी मिकदार में ?

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : मैं ने अर्ज किया था कि इस प्रकार के ऐक्सपैरीमेंट मैसूर में हो रहे हैं और अगर वह ऐक्सपैरीमेंट सब भली प्रकार संतोषजनक रीति से सफल हो जायेंगे तो ऐसे चावल बनेंगे।

Shri Ramachandra Reddi: Is the Government satisfied that the production of synthetic rice is a sound economic proposition?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: So far as investigations go, we are inclined to believe that the grain produced will be economic.

TRADE WITH FRENCH INDIA

*132. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the effect upon Indian Trade with French India of the fixing of monthly quotas of Indian currencies for payment of imports from Indian Union by the Economic Affairs Department of French India Government resulting in curtailment of imports into French India of essential commodities;

(b) whether there was free movement, so far, of Indian currencies into French India;

(c) if so, the reasons of French India Government's action in this behalf; and

(d) whether, as a result of an appeal by the French India merchants to that Government, any liberalisation of policy has taken place or there is any likelihood in future of this being so?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) There were reports some time ago that monthly quotas of Indian rupees had been fixed by French India for financing her imports from India. The French India authorities have, however, denied these reports saying that Indian currency is released in proportion to the requirements of imports from India essential to the economy of French India.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As already stated, the French India authorities have denied having fixed any monthly quotas. Restrictions placed on release of currencies to payments for essential imports from India may have been due to shortage of Indian currency experienced in Pondicherry for some months past.

(d) We are not aware of any recent changes in policy. The currency position, however, appears to have eased as a result of the action taken by the French India authorities to relieve the shortage.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : फ्रांसीसी भारत सरकार ने जो यह कार्यवाही की है इस से भारतीय व्यापार पर क्या असर पड़ा है ?

श्री सी० डी० देशमुख : असर तो अच्छा होगा, क्योंकि अब जो कार्यवाही की गयी है वह इस तरह की है कि उस से चलन ज्यादा लभ्य हो जाय ।

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि इस तरह की करेंसी का फिक्सेशन किसी और विदेशी उपनिवेश से भी हुआ है ?

श्री सी० डी० देशमुख : ऐसी मुश्किलातें कभी कभी और भी देशों के साथ हो जाया करती हैं ।

Shri Raghuramaiah: May I know whether, while on the one hand such restrictions are imposed against the entry of Indian goods into Pondicherry, there has not been an increase in the smuggling of French goods into Indian territory; and if so, what steps the Government of India are taking to stop that?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is a regular trade, not smuggling.

Shri Raghuramaiah: Flow of goods by the secret process of smuggling.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Sir, I should like to have that long question again.

Shri Raghuramaiah: I want to know whether, while on the one hand the French Government are imposing these restrictions so as to curtail the flow of Indian goods into French territory, there has not been an increase in the flow of French goods into Indian territory by smuggling; and if so, what action the Government of India propose to take to curtail or stop that.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I do not see that it is our duty to stop that. So far the balance of trade has been increasingly in our favour. In 1950-51 it was Rs. 28·5 lakhs, in 1951-52 Rs. 52:2 lakhs, and in 1952-53 Rs. 73·8 lakhs. And that is really the reason why there was a shortage of Indian currency in French India. So, if they were to take to increased exports and reduce their imports that would be a step in the right direction in the sense that more Indian currency would be available. The difficulty has arisen on account of the diminution in the smuggling of gold from Pondicherry into India.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

Dr. M. M. Das *rose*—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members must be up before I call the next question. I will allow two or three supplementaries to the questioner, see if anybody else wants to put a question, and then call the next question. Hereafter I won't allow any hon. Member to put a supplementary when once I have called the next question.

Dr. Das.

Dr. M. M. Das: Is it not a fact that the import of goods from foreign countries to the French Possessions of India is greater than can be consumed by the French Possessions themselves and that most of these goods are smuggled into the Indian territory?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I have no statistics to show what the imports into French India from abroad are and what proportion of these imports is consumed in that territory and therefore what remaining portion, inferentially, is sent into our territory. But it is possible that a certain amount of smuggling takes place. It is a general problem of which we are well seized.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

REQUISITIONED LANDS AND BUILDINGS

*133. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases, still pending before Government for settlement of claims of compensation for the lands and buildings that were requisitioned and taken possession of by the then Defence Department of the Government of India during the last war:

(b) the causes for delay for the settlement of these claims:

(c) how Government propose to compensate the owners of the requisitioned lands and buildings for their sufferings and hardships, due to nonpayment of compensation; and

(d) whether crop compensation is paid at present for acquired agricultural lands about which no settlement has yet been reached?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) 1,968.

(b) The causes of delay in settlement of claims are as follows:—

(1) Delay in assessment of compensation by Collectors.

(2) Non-receipt of appropriate bills from claimants.

(3) Non-traceability of claimants.

(4) Reference to Arbitration.

(5) Appeals in High Courts against Arbitrator's award.

(6) Non-existence of appropriate record regarding Schedule of Condition at the time of requisition and derequisition.

(7) Highly exaggerated claims by claimants.

(8) Time taken in scrutinising the claims by Audit authorities and settlement of objections raised by them.

(9) Protracted correspondence with the claimants for obtaining acceptance of the offers made to them.

(10) Long drawn proceedings before the arbitrators and in Appeals against Arbitrator's award in High Courts.

(c) In appropriate cases of hardship interest at reasonable rate on the out-

standing amount of the claim is allowed.

(d) No.

Dr. M. M. Das: In reply to part (d) of my question the hon. Minister has said: No. May I know the reasons why crop compensations are not being paid to the owners of the agricultural lands before final settlement of these claims and payment is made?

Sardar Majithia: Once the property is taken over by Government, then the question of compensation for crops does not arise.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether in that case Government is prepared to pay interest on the value determined by Government for the time between the final settlement of the claims and the actual payment of the money?

Sardar Majithia: That is already being done. As I said, in certain cases of hardship, a reasonable amount of interest is already given.

Dr. M. M. Das: In view of the fact that about ten years have passed since these lands and buildings were acquired by Government and that compensation has not been paid to these claimants, may I know whether Government is aware of the sufferings and dissatisfaction of the people due to the non-settlement of the claims and the non-payment of the amounts?

Sardar Majithia: Government is fully aware of that. But, as I have already stated in answer to part (b) of the question, sometimes the conditions are beyond our control and litigation starts and it naturally takes time. If only the claimants do not go into litigation I think they will be very much happier.

Shri T. N. Singh: Most of the cases of real hardship go to arbitration, as far as I know. As such, may I know the reasons for delay in those cases and why they are pending for eight years?

Sardar Majithia: I have already given in detail the causes for the delay. In certain cases the assessments are to be made by the Collectors, they have to be checked by the Audit authorities, objections may be raised, and they have to be satisfied. It does take time.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : माननीय मंत्री जी ने अभी वह कारण बताए कि जिन के सबब से इस मामले में देर हो रही है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि कब तक आशा की जाती है कि यह सारा मामला तय हो जायगा ?

Sardar Majithia: That is a question which is very difficult to reply. For instance, in some cases the claimants are not traceable. As soon as they are traced the questions will be settled. But every endeavour is made to settle these claims as early as possible; and I hope that by October they should be through.

सेठ अचल सिंह : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि कम्पनसेशन के कितने केसेज अब तक पेंडिंग हैं ?

Sardar Majithia: I have already replied to that in part (a). It is 1,968.

Dr. M. M. Das: In giving the causes for this undue delay the hon. Minister has mentioned the loss of the relevant records as one reason. May I know what will be done in those cases where the relevant records have been lost—because it is not the fault of the claimants that these records have been lost.

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): I wish to promise to the House to take particular care to see that all these cases are speedily disposed of. I was just inspired by this question. I shall have these investigated and also see if some officers could be deputed to decide the cases as quickly as possible.

PURCHASE OF "HUNT" CLASS DESTROYERS

*134. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether the Government of India recently purchased three "Hunt" class destroyers from the U.K.?

(b) On what terms were these destroyers purchased?

(c) What is the cost involved?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): (a) Three 'Hunt' class frigates have been obtained on loan from the Admiralty.

(b) (1) India to be responsible for any work required to be done on the ships before taking them over, including any equipment installed to meet her needs.

(2) The standard of maintenance and refits, and the periods between refits, to be the same as for ships with the Royal Navy.

(3) Any alterations and additions required by India to be given effect to only subject to Admiralty approval and at India's expense.

(4) Vessels to be returned, with stores in as good a condition as when loaned, fair wear and tear excepted.

(5) In the event of loss, compensation to be agreed upon would be payable.

(6) Loan to be for three years in the first instance, subject to extension by agreement, but vessels to be returned on demand in an emergency.

(c) An expenditure of about Rs. 90 lakhs has been incurred in the modernisation and equipment of these ships.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I know when these ships were put into commission and if they have become obsolete or not?

Shri Tyagi: These frigates were built and launched between 1939 and 1942 and they are in a good condition of repair.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Has the attention of the Minister been drawn to certain press reports to the effect that at least one of these vessels had to undergo—and perhaps is still undergoing—refitting and modernisation in a Merseyside shipyard?

Shri Tyagi: Sir, some modernisation of all these three ships has been effected.

Pandit S. C. Mishra: Is the hon. Minister in a position to give a categorical assurance to the House that though the name betrays otherwise, these vessels will be kept in the same perfunct operative class which the Prime Minister defined as 'excellent'.

Shri Tyagi: I am afraid, Sir, I could not understand the meaning of 'excellent'...*(Interruption)*

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, Order. If a question is not self-explanatory it need not be pursued by hon. Members.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I know, Sir, if the temporary acquisition of these ships makes them liable also for naval exercises along with the British Navy in the Mediterranean or elsewhere?

Shri Tyagi: The exercise has no relation with the British Naval ships. These ships have been got because we used to send quite a number of our trainees to U.K. for the purposes of naval training. And now U.K. after some time felt that they could not cope up with the large demand for training of naval personnel from India. Therefore, these ships have been loaned to us so that training can be given to our boys here in India.

Pandit S. C. Mishra: May I know, Sir, what would be the cost to the Government to purchase these three ships?

Shri Tyagi: They have not been purchased, Sir. I am afraid, I haven't got the figures.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know, Sir since these three ships are of the old type, modern training, will it still be given by the British Navy?

Shri Tyagi: Yes, Madam. If need be, specialised training can be given.

I am sorry, I ought to have used the word 'Sir'.

Shri Joachim Alva: Before undertaking the colossal expenditure of Rs. 90 lakhs on modernising the vessels,

as the hon. Minister stated, did the Ministry consult knowledgeable impartial specialists who could certify that the destroyers were swift, mobile and efficient, capable of attack and counter-attack in times of war and not just old, discarded junks of the British Navy?

Shri Tyagi: These ships are taken over for the purpose of imparting training to our trainees in the Navy. These ships are quite fit and before taking them over, due inspection was made and our experts in India had certified that the ships were worth having.

EDUCATION OF SERVICEMEN'S CHILDREN

*135. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state whether the Government of India are aware of the difficulty faced by servicemen in educating their children due to frequent transfers from one linguistic area to another?

(b) Have Government any scheme or proposal to enable the children to continue their studies uninterrupted by the transfer of their parents?

(c) If so, what are the details of the scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Yes.

(i) State Governments have been requested to issue instructions to all Government and aided schools to relax the restriction imposed on the admission of children of service personnel during the middle of the terms and to admit them at any time during the year irrespective of the fact whether they have been registered or not.

(ii) State Governments had also been requested to exempt the children of the Defence Service personnel from studying the regional language compulsorily in schools where it is not used as a medium of instruction. The reactions of all the States are not yet known. The Governments of Madras, Mysore, Rajasthan and Travancore-Cochin have already agreed to this.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: May I know, Sir, whether the scheme applies only to the officers' children or to the soldiers' children also?

Sardar Majithia: It refers to all the children including the J.C.Os. and N.C.Os. and other ranks.

Shri Nanadas: May I know, Sir, whether there are any other free boarding schools for the children of the military personnel run by the Defence Department?

Sardar Majithia: There are no such schools but the hon. Member is perhaps referring to the King George's Schools situated at Nowgong, Ajmer, Belgaum, and Bangalore. There you have 150 seats reserved for the children of service personnel and the other 150 seats are reserved for civilians.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know, Sir, if the Defence Department has entered into negotiations with the schools not only to allow them to enter a school but also to give them boarding facilities as otherwise it serves no useful purpose?

Sardar Majithia: I have not got the information on that question, but I will certainly make inquiries from schools controlled by the Defence Department and let the hon. Member know.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Could I know the number of children of servicemen who are affected by the transfer of servicemen themselves?

Sardar Majithia: I am afraid, Sir, I haven't got that information.

FAIR WAGES COMMITTEE

*136. **Shri B. C. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether the recommendations of the Fair Wages Committee appointed by the Government of India have been implemented in case of workers of Gazipur Opium Factory?

(b) If so, do Government propose to place on the Table of the House a statement showing comparative wage scales of the labourers before and

after the implementation of the recommendations of the Fair Wages Committee?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) The Government of India did not appoint any "Fair Wages Committee". Presumably the Member has in mind the Committee set up by the Central Board of Revenue in April 1950 for classification of labour and rationalisation of wages of workmen employed in the Opium Factories in India. The recommendations of this Committee regarding the wages of the workers of the Ghazipur Opium Factory have been implemented.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 47.]

Shri B. C. Das: How do the rates given in the statement compare with the rates in other opium factories?

Shri A. C. Guha: The recommendations of the Committee have been implemented in regard to the Ghazipur Opium Factory: I haven't got the wages of the other factories. I can say that the other factories are too small. The number of labour engaged there is not very much.

Shri B. C. Das: May I know, Sir, whether the recommendations have been implemented in the case of the other factories also?

Shri A. C. Guha: I am not sure. As I have already said, these have been implemented in the Ghazipur Factory and that other factories are very small.

Shri Nanadas: May I know, Sir, whether the Bombay factories will come under the Factories Act? If so, may I know whether the Minimum Wages Act will also apply to these factories?

Shri A. C. Guha: The factories come under the Factory Act but the Minimum Wages Act does not apply to opium factories.

RECRUITMENT OF ASSISTANTS

*137. **Ch. Raghubir Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some direct recruitments in the Assistants grade were made last year?

(b) If so, how many?

(c) What is the basis of their selection?

(d) Is it a fact that direct recruitment is going to be made in the near future?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) to (c). There has been no direct recruitment of persons in any Government service either to the permanent or to the regular temporary establishment of the Assistants' grade during 1952. There may have been purely temporary appointments to posts of Assistants on the recommendation of the Employment Exchanges.

(d) There will be no examination for direct recruitment of Assistants during 1953. The question whether there should be one during 1954 has not yet been decided.

CENTRAL DETECTIVE TRAINING SCHOOL, ABU

*138. **Ch. Raghubir Singh:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government are going to establish a Central Detective Training School at Abu?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): The matter is under consideration of Government.

DISPLACED PERSONS IN ANDAMANS

*139. **Ch. Raghubir Singh:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state how many families of displaced persons have so far been shifted to the Andamans for settlement?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): Four hundred and forty-six families of displaced persons have been settled in the Andamans.

Ch. Raghubir Singh: May I know, Sir, how many more families are going to be sent to Andamans?

Shri Datar: Four hundred more families are going to be sent to Andamans during this year.

Shri Raghuramaiah: May I know what special facilities are given to displaced persons who have settled down in Andamans?

Shri Datar: They are given 5 acres of agricultural land and five acres of hilly land for homestead and other purposes. They are given Rs. 2,000 for meeting certain expenses. In addition, for five years no land tax would be charged.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the first batch of displaced persons sent have been settled on the Long Island or in Port Blair?

Shri Datar: Some have been settled on the Long Island and some in Port Blair.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether these facilities will be given to all the landless labourers who are willing to go to Andamans and settle there?

Shri Datar: So far as the policy of the Government is concerned from next year 75 per cent. would be displaced persons and the other 25 would be from the other States. All these concessions are mostly reserved for the agriculturists.

Shri Nanadas: What is the procedure laid down for getting these concessions?

Shri Datar: The procedure is to apply to the Chief Commissioner, Andamans.

Land Mortgage Banks

*140. **Shri Heda:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state how many Land Mortgage Banks are functioning in different parts of India?

(b) What is the total loan that these Banks have advanced?

(c) What is the share of the Central Government in these operations in the shape of advances or loans to these Land Mortgage Banks by the Reserve Bank or otherwise?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) 7 Central Co-operative Land Mortgage Banks and 289 Primary Co-operative Land Mortgage Banks.

(b) Rs. 250·65 lakhs (excluding the Hyderabad Central Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank whose figures are not yet available) in 1951-52.

(c) The Central Government have not made any advances or loans. The Reserve Bank's assistance to land mortgage banks takes the form of purchase of debentures floated by the Central Land Mortgage Banks upto 20 per cent. of each issue. and recognition of these debentures as acceptable security for advances. The Reserve Bank has so far purchased debentures for Rs. 54·02 lakhs.

श्री हेडा : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय के पास स्टेटवाइज इस के आंकड़े हैं ? और अगर हैं तो कौन सी स्टेट है जिस में इस प्रकार का ज्यादा से ज्यादा काम हुआ है ?

Shri A. C. Guha: Land Mortgage Banks are well organised in Madras and Mysore. In other States, they are not well organised and they are not functioning well.

Shri Heda: Figures?

Shri A. C. Guha: Central Land Mortgage Bank, Madras, loans advanced during the year Rs. 82·84 lakhs; Bombay Rs. 18·90 lakhs; Mysore Rs. 17·15 lakhs; Orissa Rs. 1·86 lakhs; Travancore-Cochin Rs. 3·27 lakhs; and Saurashtra Rs. 126·58 lakhs.

श्री हेडा : चूंकि इस पंच-वर्षीय योजना के अन्दर कृषि के ऊपर और कृषि उत्पादन के ऊपर काफी जोर दिया गया है, इस लिहाज से सारे प्रदेशों में लैंड मार्टगेज बैंकों का काम इस बड़े पैमाने पर हो इस दृष्टि से हुकूमत क्या कर रही है ?

Shri A. C. Guha: I think the hon. Member must have been aware that the Rural Banking Enquiry Committee made certain recommendations for

strengthening the Land Mortgage banks and in pursuance of those recommendations, the Reserve Bank has already taken certain steps. The Reserve Bank is also making a country-wide enquiry into the rural credit system. The answer to his question is that the Reserve Bank is anxious to see that rural credit is available to facilitate the growth of agriculture in the country.

Shri M. R. Krishna: May I know whether there is any proposal to advance loans to protected tenants from this Bank?

Shri A. C. Guha: I do not know who the protected tenants are. These loans are given to tenants so far I can say.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether, in addition to the purchasing of debentures and anxiety of the Reserve Bank for the development of these banks, any concession or special facilities are given to these banks by the Reserve Bank?

Shri A. C. Guha: I have already stated that the debentures of these banks have been included as acceptable securities of the Reserve Bank and also as trustee securities.

Shri R. K. Chaudhury: What is the present position of the Land Mortgage banks organised by the co-operative societies? Do they receive any kind of assistance from the Reserve Bank?

Shri A. C. Guha: The question relates to co-operative land mortgage banks. All the replies that have been given are about them.

Shri N. M. Lingam: May I know whether the differences in the land revenue systems obtaining in the various parts of the country stand in the way of the people in some States availing of all the benefits of these Land Mortgage banks and if so what steps do the Government propose to take to make available the benefits of these banks to the people under the several land tenures obtaining in the country?

Shri A. C. Guha: The hon. Member's apprehension is, to a certain extent, correct. He must have been aware that practically in all the provinces certain agrarian legislations are being passed to stop these anomalies, so that these tenants may get proper facilities.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

Shri Heda: One question, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No. Next question

Agricultural Holdings belonging to Mir Laik Ali

*141. **Shri Heda:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state the total acreage of Mir Laik Ali's agricultural holdings in Nizamabad District?

(b) How much of this holding is under sugar-cane?

(c) What are the chief terms of the lease given to a private party?

(d) How do Government propose to dispose of this land?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) 1,036 acres.

(b) 418 acres and 22 *guntas*.

(c) and (d). It is proposed to lease the entire farm to groups of Sindhi displaced persons and orders for leasing out 385 acres to them have already been issued. Meanwhile, a part of the cultivable area (128 acres 28 *guntas*) has been leased to local ryots for Rs. 14,395/-. This area which is included in (b) above will be available for allotment to displaced persons in April 1954.

श्री हेडा : सिंधी डिस्प्लेस्ड पर्सन्स को अब तक कुल कितनी जमीन इस तरह से बांटी गई है, और बाकी जो जमीन बची है उस का क्या किया जा रहा है ?

डा० काटजू : मैं ने अर्ज किया कि डिस्प्लेस्ड पर्सन्स को अब तक ३८५ एकड़ जमीन दी गई है और बाकी जो बची है और

जिस की काश्त हो सकती है उस में पहले गवर्नमेन्ट ने खुद काश्त की थी, लेकिन मालूम हुआ कि उस में खर्च बहुत होता है, इस वजह से वह मुकामी काश्तकारों को दे दी गई और अप्रैल सन् १९५४ यानी अगले साल से वह सब डिस्प्लेस्ड पर्सन्स को दी जायेगी।

डा० एन० बी० खरे : डिस्प्लेस्ड पर्सन्स वह खर्चा कहां से बर्दाश्त करेंगे जब गवर्नमेन्ट उस को नहीं बर्दाश्त कर सकती है ?

डा० काटजू : आप ने ख्याल नहीं फर्माया, मैं ने कहा कि खर्चा ज्यादा होता है। रैयत कम खर्च करती है।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Dr. Suresh Chandra.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : सभापति जी, ...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order; I have already called Dr. Suresh Chandra. Hon. Members cannot just stand up and shoot out questions.

Dr. Suresh Chandra: The hon. Minister said that a part of the lands has been allotted to the Sindhi refugees. May I know the reason why this discrimination has been made against the Punjabi refugees?

Dr. Katju: I should like to have notice of the question. This is a matter entirely for the State Government as to which particular class of displaced persons they think most deserving.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि यह दूसरी जातियों के लिये क्यों नहीं है, शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट के लोगों के लिये क्यों नहीं है ? खाली सिंधियों के ही लिये क्यों है ?

डा० काटजू : अगर सिंधी डिस्प्लेस्ड पर्सन्स में शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट के लोग आयेंगे तो उन का लिहाज रखा जायेगा। डिस्प्लेस्ड पर्सन्स और शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स में बिल्कुल अभी कोई वास्ता नहीं है।

Dr. Suresh Chandra: The hon. Minister said that it is for the State Government to decide. May I know whether it is the State Government or the Central Government which decides?

Dr. Katju: I should like to have notice for a precise answer. I was under the impression that this was a matter entirely for the State Government.

Shri Nanadas: The hon. Minister said that a certain land was allotted to local ryots. May I know whether they are rich landholders or landless agricultural labourers?

Dr. Katju: I should like to have notice of the question. There is no difference.

SUGGESTIONS OF MICA ADVISORY BOARD

*142. **Shri Heda:** (a) Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state the suggestions made by the Sub-Committee appointed by the Mica Advisory Committee to arrest the fluctuations in the prices of mica?

(b) What action was taken on these suggestions by Government?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) The sub-committee recommended that certain floor prices be fixed for splittings in terms of dollars.

(b) The Government of India decided that it was not necessary to fix minimum prices statutorily.

श्री हेडा : क्या सरकार यह जानती है कि इन प्राइसेज के फिक्स न होने की वजह से यह माइन्स साल में कुछ महीने ही काम कर सकती हैं और कुछ महीने काम नहीं कर सकती हैं जब कि प्राइसेज कम हो जाती हैं ?

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : प्राइसेज निर्धारित करने के लिये गवर्नमेन्ट ने यह मुनासिब नहीं समझा कि कानून से कोई मिनिमम प्राइस तय की जाय, बल्कि गवर्नमेन्ट ने यह मुनासिब समझा कि खरीदने वाले और बेचने वाले दोनों मिल करके एक मुनासिब दाम तय करें, और इस का अच्छा परिणाम हुआ है।

श्री हेडा : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय बता सकते हैं कि गुजिश्ता छः महीने या एक साल के अन्दर इसके परिणामस्वरूप कोई कमी फलक्चुएशन्स में हुई है ?

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : मैं छः महीने के बारे में तो नहीं कह सकता लेकिन खरीदने वालों के रिप्रेजेन्टेटिव्ज के कहन पर एक अमरीकन माइका खरीदने वाली फर्म ने कीमत कुछ बढ़ाई है।

KIDNAPPED CHILDREN IN DELHI

*143. **Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state how many children were reported to have been kidnapped in Delhi in 1952 and till the 31st May, 1953?

(b) How many cases have been detected and brought up for trial?

(c) What special precautions have been taken to prevent such crimes?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) 147 children were kidnapped in Delhi in 1952 and 55 till the 31st May 1953.

(b) 56 in 1952 and 24 till 31st May 1953.

(c) (i) The Police patrols in main streets and bazars have been specially alerted.

(ii) A vigilant eye is being kept on the activities of persons, who are suspected to be indulging in such crimes.

(iii) The public in general is being warned to guard against such people through police-men in charge of beats.

Shrimati A. Kale: May I know whether the Government has tried to find out the object behind this kidnapping?

Shri Datar: The object can be imagined. They are various: either for ornaments or for immoral purposes.

Shrimati A. Kale: How many of these are girls?

Shri Datar: I have not got these figures.

Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha: In respect of the cases detected, how many are due directly to police efforts and how many due to the kidnapped children escaping from custody and reporting to the police?

Shri Datar: I have not got those figures but I will inform the House that out of 147 children, 126 have already been restored to the parties and out of the 55 kidnapped till the 31st of May, 1953, 30 have already been recovered and restored.

Shri Muniswamy: Do these children belong to Northern India or Southern India or from all over India?

Shri Datar: They belong to all parts of India. They are settled in Delhi.

Shrimati A. Kale: May I know what steps have been taken to punish the offenders?

Shri Datar: Steps that are taken are by way of prosecution.

POLICE COMMISSION

*144. **Shri Eswara Reddy:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether a decision has been taken by the Government of India in the matter of appointing a Police Commission?

(b) Have the views of the different State Governments in this regard been received and if so, what are their views?

(c) What would be the personnel of the proposed Police Commission and what are its terms of reference?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) and (b). Not yet.

(c) The question has not so far been considered as it is premature to do so.

Shri Eswara Reddy: Has the Government issued any memorandum in the matter of appointing a Police Commission?

Dr. Katju: So far we have consulted the State Governments, we have received some answers and are awaiting further answers. These are on specific questions and when the answers are received the matter will be gone into to consider what steps should be taken in this important matter.

TRAINING OF AFGHAN AIR PERSONNEL

*145. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh**: (a) Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state whether any agreement has been arrived at between India and Afghanistan in regard to training of Afghan air personnel in India?

(b) If so, for how many Afghan cadets training facilities have been provided under that agreement?

(c) How many Afghan cadets have already arrived in India for training purposes?

(d) Where are they being trained?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): (a) to (d). At the request of the Afghan Government, the Government of India have agreed to provide training facilities to a limited number of Afghan air personnel in the different air training schools in India. 17 Afghan cadets and 62 Afghan airmen are receiving such training at present.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What is the reply to part (d) of my question?

Shri Tyagi: I have already replied (a) to (d). Regarding (d), they are at various places. The number of vacancies which have been allotted to them for various courses are at Tambaram, Jalahalle, Begumpet, Jodhpur and other places.

सेठ गोविन्द दास: क्या इस शिक्षा में जो कि अफगानों को दी जाती है कोई विशेष खर्चा होता है?

Shri Tyagi: Training is always expensive and as such if we train a large number of people, naturally, the expenditure increases.

सेठ गोविन्द दास: मैं यह जानना चाहता था कि अगर कुछ विशेष खर्च होता है तो उसे हम लोग देते हैं या अफगान सरकार देती है?

श्री त्यागी: आम तौर से खर्चे का कुछ हिस्सा तो हमारे ऊपर पड़ता है इस वास्ते कि ट्रेनिंग के स्टाफ वगैरह के और पैट्रोल वगैरह के रोजमर्रा के खर्चे होते हैं उन में काफी हिस्सा हमारा इंस्टीट्यूशन देता है। लेकिन मेरा ख्याल है कि जो वहां से ट्रेनिंग लेने आते हैं, मुझे पूरा यकीन नहीं है लेकिन मेरा अन्दाजा है कि शायद उन का अपना खर्चा अफगान गवर्नमेंट देती है।

Shri Joachim Alva: Regarding these Afghan Cadets, has Government taken the view of giving uniform and systematic training that was meted out to the Indonesian and Burmese Cadets?

Shri Tyagi: All these countries are treated at par.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

EXPORTS TO MAHE

*146. **Shri A. K. Gopalan**: (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether from the 21st May, 1953, a new order has been passed by the Central Excise authorities prohibiting the carrying of any articles other than bidis and milk by persons going to the French Indian settlement of Mahe on the Malabar Coast from the near parts of Malabar District?

(b) What are the reasons which led the Central Excise authorities to take such a step?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) The Government of India by the Ministry of Finance (Revenue Division), Notification No. 27—Customs, dated the 1st May 1953, have prohibited the export to Mahe of such goods only as are liable to pay duty or cess on export and the Land Customs officers concerned are enforcing the prohibition.

(b) The prohibition was imposed with a view to prevent smuggling out of India of dutiable goods which were being sent to Mahe in the first instance from the adjoining Indian territories without payment of duty and subsequently were being despatched from there to foreign countries.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: May I know if it is as a result of this restriction that recently certain pro-merger people have been deported from Mahe?

Shri A. C. Guha: I have no such reports, Sir.

Shri N. P. Damodaran: May I know, Sir, whether the customs restrictions imposed in places around Mahe from the 21st of May, 1953 have since been withdrawn and, if so, from which date, and what were the reasons for the withdrawal of the same?

Shri A. C. Guha: It has been introduced from 1st May, 1953 and as such there is no question of withdrawal of restrictions.

Shri N. P. Damodaran: Was there any agitation in Mahe?

Shri A. C. Guha: I have not received any report.

Shri Kelappan: Is the Government considering the proposal to divert the route between Kozhikode and Cannanore by constructing a combined Rail-Road Bridge to avoid travel through the Settlement of Mahe?

Shri A. C. Guha: I would require notice.

Shri N. P. Damodaran: In view of the large-scale smuggling that is going on around Mahe and other foreign settlements, do the Government of India intend to introduce a passport system for travel between foreign settlements and the Indian Union and if so, when?

Shri A. C. Guha: No question of passport has been referred to this Government.

Shri N. P. Damodaran: It is reported to have been said at Madras.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. I will not allow any discussion on this.

Shri Kelappan: Are the Government aware that the Trunk Road between Kozhikode and Cannanore passes through Mahe and facilities exist for the smuggling of dutiable articles?

Shri A. C. Guha: That is the very reason why these restrictions have been imposed.

Shri N. P. Damodaran: Is it not a fact that following this ban, persons and goods going from Kozhikode to Cannanore were stopped by the French authorities at Mahe. Also passengers and conductors of buses were stopped?

Shri A. C. Guha: I would like to have notice. This is a matter of detail. I cannot say off-hand.

Shri Velayudhan: If there was any tightening of the restriction was there any reason for relaxing it recently?

Shri A. C. Guha: I have already mentioned about the tightening of controls and recently certain relaxations have been made regarding essential good.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

Recommendations of All-India Council of Technical Education

*147. **Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether the decisions and recommendations of the All-India Council of Technical Education which met in February last, in-

so far as they concern the Government of India have been considered by Government?

(b) If so, how and when are they going to be implemented?

(c) If not, why?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) A statement giving the present position is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 48.]

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: The Council had decided that the details of the Five Year Plan of Development should be worked out, and that subjects should be selected on a priority basis. May I know what has been done?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: In regard to that question, Sir, the Regional Committees are seized with the matter, and also some of the recommendations of the Council have been referred to the Commerce and Industry Ministry also.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know, Sir, how far the question of setting up stipends has been settled, the number of stipends that are now available and in which industries?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The details are not with me, but the question of giving stipends has been agreed to.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: The question of training craftsmen was also discussed, and may I know how far this has been undertaken, and how far has legislation proceeded?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: That question has been referred to the Commerce and Industry Ministry, and they are considering this matter.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : इन में से जिन सिफ़ारिशों का सम्बन्ध भिन्न भिन्न प्रान्तों से है, उनके विषय में क्या हो रहा है ?

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : वे स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को भेज दी गयी हैं और सम्भवतः वे इन सब पर शीघ्रता से विचार कर रही हैं।

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या स्टेट गवर्नमेन्टस से कोई लिखापढ़ी केन्द्रीय सरकार की हो रही है ?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. Prof. Sharma. One hon. Member cannot take the monopoly.

ADAMPORE AERODROME

*148. **Prof. D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of land occupied by the aerodrome at Adampore;

(b) how much of it is suitable for cultivation;

(c) whether Government propose to release any land for cultivation; and

(d) if so, to what extent and on what conditions?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) 273·62 acres.

(b) about 100 acres.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know, Sir, if any representations have been received by the Ministry from the inhabitants of Adampore for the allotment of this land for agricultural purposes?

Sardar Majithia: As I said, Sir, we cannot give this land for agricultural purposes because it is being occupied at the moment by the Defence Services.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know, Sir...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member should wait for me to call him.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: I want to ask another supplementary.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Why does he proceed immediately without my calling him?

Prof. D. C. Sharma: I am sorry, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Mr. Sharma.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know, Sir, what the policy of the Government is with regard to those aerodromes which are not in active daily use so far as allotment of land for agricultural purposes is concerned? I think there are certain aerodromes where land has been allotted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No argument.

Sardar Majithia: The position is this that wherever we find it surplus to our requirements, the land is given back to the original owners. and therefore, that question of allotment does not arise.

Deputation of Officials to PEPSU Government

*149. **Prof. D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state the number of officials of gazetted rank in the service of PEPSU sent on deputation from outside the State by the Central Government?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): 16 Officials of gazetted rank are at present on deputation to Patiala and East Punjab States Union from various States.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know, Sir, if there is any proposal afoot to integrate the Punjab Services with the PEPSU Services?

Dr. Katju: That has been under discussion for a long time, and that discussion is still proceeding. It is a very touchy subject.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know, Sir, if, in order to tone up the administration in PEPSU, it is necessary to import a few more gazetted officers from outside PEPSU?

Dr. Katju: It depends very much on the requirements of the PEPSU Government, and the opinion that the Adviser may express upon the topic.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Mr. Nanadas

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know, Sir, to what categories...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Mr. Nanadas.

Shri Nanadas: May I know how many of them are Police officers?

Dr. Katju: I think one or two—two so far as I can see.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

Opium Cultivation

*150. **Prof. D. C. Sharma:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the acreage of opium cultivation in the States of the Punjab, PEPSU and Himachal Pradesh during the year 1952-53?

(b) How does the crop compare with that during the year 1951-52?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) and (b). A statement has been laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 49.]

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know whether it is the policy of the Government to see to the progressive decline in the allotment of land for this kind of cultivation?

Shri A. C. Guha: Yes, Sir. That has been the policy of the Government —to reduce the consumption by 10 per cent. every year and consequently the cultivation.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know, Sir, if the same kind of tax is levied all over India so far as the cultivation of opium land is concerned?

Shri A. C. Guha: I do not understand what tax the hon. Member means.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: I could not follow what he said.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Minister does not understand the question The questioner does not understand the reply?

Shri N. M. Lingam: Is it a fact that the international board has warned India of the danger of putting more narcotic drugs in the legal market, and if so, what steps has India taken to reduce the area under opium cultivation?

Shri A. C. Guha: As far as I know, India has been fulfilling her obligations under the international convention, and to my knowledge there is no complaint from the international body regarding any lapse on the part of India in this connection.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether opium cultivation is an economic proposition in India?

Shri A. C. Guha: There also, I would like to have explanation as to what is meant by "economic proposition". Certainly for the cultivators who grow poppy, it is an economic means of livelihood.

RESIDENTIAL AND OTHER BUILDINGS OF *ex*-RULERS

*151. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken over the residential and other buildings belonging to the *ex*-Rulers and/or their States situated in Delhi;

(b) if so, the names of these buildings and the places where they are situated;

(c) the terms under which they were taken over; and

(d) the use to which these buildings are being put at present?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) to (d). A statement is placed on the Table of the House giving the required information in respect of the residential and other buildings taken over by the Government of India from Rulers and/or State Governments. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 50.]

Shri Dabhi: May I know the present market value of each of these?

Dr. Katju: Don't you think you are rather unfair to me? How can I say?

Shri Raghuramaiah: Is there any proposal to take over Hyderabad House, any negotiations in that respect?

Dr. Katju: Not to my knowledge.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: The Minister should look at the Chair.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister will look at the Chair and answer.

Dr. Katju: I take instructions from you, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

WOMEN'S SAVINGS WEEK

*152. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the total amount invested separately up to June, 1953 in all the three types of investment under the Small Savings Scheme?

(b) Which of the States has made the largest contribution?

(c) What amount has been invested under "Women's Savings Week" drive?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) The net investment upto June, 1953 in each of the three types amounted approximately to:—

(Rs. in crores)

Post Office Savings Bank.	220·77
National Savings Certificates.	173·10
10-Year Treasury Savings Deposit Certificates.	27·57

(b) Bombay.

(c) Rs. 42 lakhs.

Shri K. P. Sinha: Is it a fact that the money thus raised would be left to the respective States for expenditure on development projects?

Shri A. C. Guha: No, Sir. There is an all-India target of Rs. 45 crores. There is also a target for each State. If that target of 45 crores is achieved and if the State can get anything over and above its own target, that excess money would be left to the States.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next Question.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF LETTERS

*153. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether the National Academy of Letters has been established?

(b) If so, where are its Headquarters?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The headquarters of the Academy will be at New Delhi.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

ALLOTMENT OF SYMBOLS TO POLITICAL PARTIES

*154. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** Will the Minister of **Law** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the all-India political party symbols were allotted for the State Assembly and House of the People by the Election Commissioner;

(b) whether the all-India symbols can be used for election to local bodies by the various State Governments;

(c) whether permission to use the all-India symbols for election to local bodies was sought by the Madhya Pradesh Government; and

(d) whether at the recent election on the 25th May, 1953 to the Bilaspur Municipal Committee in Madhya Pradesh State, the use of all-India symbols by the various parties was recommended by the Election Commissioner?

The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas): (a) It is a fact that at the General Elections certain symbols were allotted by the Election Commission to the all-India political parties for use at Parliamentary elections as well as elections to the State Legislative Assemblies.

(b) and (c). At the instance of the Madhya Pradesh Government in October 1952, the Election Commission agreed to the use of these symbols at elections to local bodies in all the States.

(d) No.

GRANTS TO UNIVERSITIES UNDER FIVE YEAR PLAN

*155. **Shri Amjad Ali:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the existing universities in India which are getting grants out of the Five Year Plan showing the amount in each case;

(b) whether the residential universities are getting no financial aid out of this fund; and

(c) whether it is the policy of Government for expansion of education in India, to maintain and create more controlling universities than residential?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) A statement showing the names of Indian Universities to which grants have been paid under the Five Year Plan during the year 1952-53 is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 51.]

(b) No, Sir. The basis on which grants have been made to Indian Universities under Five Year Plan have been stated in another statement laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 52.]

(c) No, Sir.

INDIAN NAVY FOR THE CORONATION

*156. **Shri A. N. Vidyalankar:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a part of Indian Navy participated in the naval display in Britain in connection with the Coronation;

(b) the number of vessels that were deputed;

(c) the total cost incurred; and

(d) whether the expenditure was borne by India or by U.K.?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): (a) and (b). Three ships of the Indian Navy participated in the Coronation Naval Review. They were:—

I.N.S. DELHI	Cruiser
I.N.S. RANJIT	Destroyer
I.N.S. TIR	Frigate

(c) No extra expenditure was incurred on our ships, as even if these ships did not go to the United Kingdom for the Naval Review, they would have spent the same amount of Rs. 2 lakhs (approximate expenditure for period spent in U.K.) while doing the annual summer cruise.

(d) This expenditure, the same as the expenditure incurred during any other cruise of Indian Naval Ships, is borne by the Government of India.

Legal Tender of Indian Currency in Nepal

*157. **Shri L. J. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether Indian currency is a legal tender in Nepal?

(b) If so, were there any agreements entered into between the Governments of India and Nepal for having Indian currency as legal tender in Nepal?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Indian currency is not legal tender in Nepal in the sense 'legal tender' is understood in other countries. It is understood, however, that Indian currency is the only currency circulating in the Terai region of Nepal and is accepted, under administrative instructions, in payment of Government dues. The Indian rupee is also widely used in commercial transactions in the Kathmandu valley and the hill districts of Nepal.

(b) There is no such agreement between India and Nepal. Indian currency circulates in Nepal as a matter of tradition.

वादी बोस्तानी अरबी कवि

*१५८. **श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :** शिक्षा मंत्री बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को ज्ञात है कि एक अरबी कवि, वादी बोस्तानी ने महाभारत तथा अन्य कृतियों का अरबी में अनुवाद किया है;

(ख) क्या इस कवि को लेबनान के राष्ट्रपति ने 'मेरिट लबनीज़" अर्थात् सर्वोच्च स्वर्ण पदक से विभूषित किया है ; तथा

(ग) क्या भारत सरकार का विचार उसे किसी विधि द्वारा सम्मानित करने का है ?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) In recognition of the merit of the work the Government of India have decided to purchase the copyright of his translations of the Indian Classics at a cost of rupees eighty thousand.

सूर्यतापी कुकर

*१५९. **श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :** प्राकृतिक संसाधन तथा वैज्ञानिक अनुसन्धान मंत्री बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राष्ट्रीय भौतिक प्रयोगशाला, नई दिल्ली, द्वारा आविष्कृत सूर्यतापी कुकर सफल तथा आर्थिक दृष्टि से उपयोगी सिद्ध हुआ है ; तथा

(ख) इस अविष्कार के करने में कितना धन सरकार का व्यय हुआ है ?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) From our necessarily limited experience Government is inclined to the view that it has.

(b) Research on the solar cooker was carried out as part of the normal work of the National Physical Laboratory. The staff, instruments and other devices used for the work were also employed on other research work carried out in the Laboratory. It is, therefore difficult to estimate the expenses incurred specifically on this work.

संघ लोक सेवा आयोग (विज्ञापन)

*१६०. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : गृह-कार्य मंत्री बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या संघ लोक सेवा आयोग के विज्ञापन केवल अंग्रेजी भाषा समाचार-पत्रों में ही दिए जाते हैं; तथा

(ख) यदि हां, तो ऐसा करने का क्या कारण है ?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) The advertisements issued by the Union Public Service Commission relate to the superior jobs under Government for which knowledge of English is essential. The advertisements are, therefore, intended only for highly educated people, predominantly resident in urban areas, who generally read English newspapers. The question of advertising in Hindi and other Indian language newspapers is, however, under consideration.

SHIFTING OF HEADQUARTERS OF T.D.E. (W)

*161. **Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** (a) Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that orders were passed towards the beginning of this year for the shifting of the headquarters of Technical Development Establishment (Weapons) from Jubbulpore to Kirkee ?

(b) Has this order been finally given effect to?

(c) What are the reasons that weighed with Government in taking this decision?

(d) To what extent have the employees of T.D.E. (W) head-quarters and their families been provided with adequate living quarters and other facilities which they enjoyed at Jubbulpore in the new site at Kirkee?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) The orders for the move were issued on the 23rd December. 1952.

(b) Not in entirety. Only the advance Headquarters has so far moved.

(c) It was considered that the activities of the Design and Development Wing of the Technical Establishments should be separated from the Inspection Wing and that there would be considerable advantage in having the T.D.E. (W), Jubbulpur, which deals with the design and development of weapons, in the same place as T.D.E. (Ammunition), which deals with development of ammunition and which is located at Kirkee.

(d) The skeleton staff that has moved down to Kirkee has been accommodated.

CAMPING GROUNDS

*162. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) how many camping grounds were declared surplus to defence requirements in 1952-53;

(b) whether any Ministry of the Central Government or any State Governments required any of these grounds:

(c) if so, how many have been handed over to them;

(d) how many have been sold in public auction;

(e) the amount of sale-proceeds therefrom;

(f) whether any public institutions required them; and

(g) if so, whether they were given any concession?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) Since 1-1-52, 303 Camping Grounds have been declared surplus to Defence requirements.

(b) Yes. The Central Ministries of Education, Railways and Communications and the State Governments of East Punjab, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Mysore are interested in some of the surplus Camping Grounds.

(c) Seven

(d) Three.

(e) Rs. 2,90,945

(f) and (g). Of the three sold by auction only in one case a public institution showed interest but that was after the auction had been held. The question of showing any concession to a public institution did not therefore arise.

NATIONAL PLAN BONDS

*163. **Shri Nanadas:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for fixing the rate of interest for the National Plan Bonds (First Issue) at 3½ per cent. per annum; and

(b) the reasons for not fixing the issue price of the bonds at par with their value?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). The interest and the issue price of the loan were fixed with reference to the prevailing money market conditions.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS FOR MANIPUR

*164. **Shri L. J. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating administrative reforms for the Manipur Hills?

(b) If so, what are the main features of the reforms?

(c) Is the present feudal system in Manipur going to be democratised?

(d) If so, what are the main features of the schemes contemplated in connection therewith?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) to (d). The Chief Commissioner, Manipur, in consultation with his Council of Advisers, has submitted to the Government of India certain proposals for the introduction of the democratic principle in the village administration in some of the hill areas of Manipur. These proposals are under consideration.

The House will be informed of the details of the scheme as soon as a decision is taken in the matter.

UPPER DIVISION CLERKS

*165. **Shri Gopala Rao:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Auditor-General of India has raised the grade of upper division clerks in his office above that prescribed by the Central Pay Commission for Central Government Offices; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): (a) and (b). The Government of India sanctioned in 1948 a special Selection Grade of Rs. 160-10-350 for Upper Division Clerks in the Auditor-General's office. Later in 1949, they sanctioned a Selection Grade of Rs. 160-10-300 for Upper Division Clerks applicable to the entire Audit Department. The former scale is being allowed to lapse and the latter only is now effective. The Selection Grade is limited to 10 per cent. of the entire strength of the Upper Division Clerks in the Department and was sanctioned with a view to secure a balanced scale and afford some opportunity for promotion of deserving clerks.

AREA UNDER OPIUM CULTIVATION

*166. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the area under opium cultivation in India, at present; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to decrease this area in order to give

impetus to 'Grow More Food Campaign'?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) The area put under poppy cultivation during the opium year 1952-53 (that is, from 1st October 1952 to 30th September, 1953) was 83,626 acres.

(b) The area sown to opium is only an insignificant fraction—no more than 1/5,000—of the cultivable area in the country. In selecting areas for poppy cultivation, the State Governments concerned are also consulted. Poppy cultivation, in present conditions, thus hardly interferes with the Grow More Food Campaign. The area however to be put under poppy cultivation each year is kept at the lowest possible level taking into account the following factors:

(i) the requirements of the State Governments in respect of excise opium. (These are being progressively reduced by 10 per cent. every year and will be extinguished completely by 1959),

(ii) exports to foreign countries for medical and scientific purposes,

(iii) the quantity needed for the manufacture of medicinal preparations containing opium and of opium alkaloids, for consumption in India and for export to foreign countries, and

(iv) a reasonable reserve stock.

CHIEF MINISTERS OF PART 'C' STATES

*167. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether Government have finalised consideration of the Memorandum submitted last by the Chief Ministers of Part 'C' States?

(b) What are the chief points submitted for consideration?

(c) Which of these points require arrangements of a permanent nature for their solution

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) The points raised in the Memorandum submitted by the Chief Ministers of Part 'C' States have been under the consideration of the Government of India and orders have already been issued on a number of points. It is also proposed to undertake legislation to enable Part 'C' States to have a capital budget of their own.

(b) The chief points for consideration are mentioned in paragraph 78 of the Report on the Working of the Ministry of States for 1952-53.

(c) Practically all the points raised in the Memorandum submitted by the Chief Ministers of Part 'C' States require arrangements of a permanent nature.

SECURITY MEASURES

*168. **Shrimati Kamlendu Mati Shah:** (a) Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state whether any security measures have been taken by Government on the border of Tibet adjoining the Tehri-Garhwal District in U.P.

(b) Do Government contemplate to make motorable roads joining the border area?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): (a) Government have taken whatever measures they have considered it necessary to take to maintain the security of the land frontiers of India, including the particular border adjoining the Tehri-Garhwal district in U.P. The taking of essential security measures does not necessarily mean that any infringement on the border is actually apprehended. The measures taken naturally vary from area to area and in some places this task is undertaken by armed police also.

(b) It would not be in the public interest to disclose detailed information on these matters.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS

*169. **Shri S. N. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether certain finds of archaeological and historical importance have

been reported from Sekha village near Hazaribagh in Bihar?

(b) If so, what is the nature of the finds reported?

(c) What steps have so far been taken to preserve the site of these finds?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). Two small modern shrines containing a few broken images of Brahmanical gods and goddesses, including one Surya of medieval date are reported to have been found at the site about 20 years ago. Traces of brick foundation are also found on a piece of high land nearby. A few hundred feet away from these a stone door lintel has recently been exposed in course of cultivation along with the lower portion of a broken image of Umamahesvara.

(c) The ruins are not of any historical or archaeological significance, and as such the site does not deserve to be protected.

ARMS FACTORY, KANPUR

*170. **Shri S. N. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a huge quantity of wood has been found missing from an Arms Factory at Kanpur?

(b) If so, what were the circumstances in which this thing happened?

(c) What steps have so far been taken against the persons responsible for this?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) and (b). A deficiency of approximately 6,118 Cubic ft. of Haldu planks was detected during March 1953 at the Small Arms Factory, Kanpur. A Board of Enquiry was set up to investigate into the circumstances of the loss and to assess the actual deficiency. The Board has established the loss at 6,615:60 Cft. valued at Rs. 52,991. They have expressed the view that some members of the staff have been negligent and are possibly responsible for the deficiency. In their opinion at least a portion, if not the entire deficiency, is attributable to quantities being taken on stock without proper verification against documents.

(c) Six members of the staff connected with the Stores were suspended. Charges were framed against seven persons. A court of Enquiry has just concluded its proceedings and its report is under submission to Government. Suitable action will be taken against those who may be found guilty.

DELIMITATION COMMISSION

*171. **Th. Lakshman Singh Charak:** (a) Will the Minister of **Law** be pleased to state how many States have so far sent their objections on the Delimitation Commission's proposals?

(b) How many of them have been accepted?

(c) How many have been rejected?

(d) What are the grounds for their rejection?

The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas): (a) Three, namely Saurashtra, Vindhya Pradesh and Delhi.

(b) and (c). In the case of Saurashtra the suggestions are still under consideration. As regards Vindhya Pradesh and Delhi, their suggestions have been rejected.

(d) The Delimitation Commission have not given any reason for their rejection, and Government are not aware of the grounds.

NATIONAL CRICKET CLUB

*172. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in March, 1951, the Government of West Bengal was directed by the Union Government to lease, as agent of the latter some land in Eden Gardens, Calcutta, to the National Cricket Club for construction of a cricket stadium;

(b) whether the said lease was

directed to be for a period of 99 years at an annual rent of one rupee; and

(c) whether at any time thereafter, the Union Government changed their mind regarding the said lease?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) In March 1951 on the recommendation of the Government of West Bengal the Government of India agreed that the portion of the military land in Eden Gardens already used as Cricket playgrounds may be allotted to the National Cricket Club for construction of a Stadium.

(b) A draft lease for a period of 99 years had also been submitted by the National Cricket Club. This was forwarded by the State Government to the Government of India along with their original communication proposing incorporation of certain additional conditions. The suggestions of the State Government were accepted.

(c) No, Sir.

INDIAN COUNCIL OF CULTURAL RELATIONS

*173. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the countries with which the Indian Council for Cultural Relations maintains regular contacts;

(b) the ways and means so far adopted for developing such contacts; and

(c) whether any special effort is being made to further cultural contacts with neighbour countries like Pakistan, Ceylon, Burma, the People's Republic of China, the U. S. S. R. and Afghanistan?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 53.]

SECRETARIAT STAFF WELFARE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE

*174. **Shri S. N. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 277 asked on the 24th February, 1953 and state whether the Secretariat Staff Welfare and Amenities Committee has since been constituted and is now functioning?

(b) If so, what literary, social and recreational activities for the staff are being carried on or are proposed to be carried on by this Committee?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) The Committee will organise literary, social and recreational activities for the entire Secretariat in the form of games and sports, social, dramatic and literary activities, canteens etc. The details of these activities will be finalised in consultation with the Ministries.

DOLLAR-DEFICIT

*176. **Shri Raghavaiah:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state what is the over-all dollar deficit in the Sterling Area?

(b) What is the contribution of India to that deficit?

(c) What is the contribution of Britain thereto?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The dollar deficit or surplus of the Sterling Area is best indicated by the changes in the levels of the Central Reserves of Gold and Dollars of the Area. During 1952, the Reserves fell by $489 million. Since the beginning of 1953, upto the end of June, the 'Reserves' have however gone up by $521 million.

(b) India's net drawing from the Central reserves during 1952 was $118 million. Her net contribution to the Reserves during January-June, 1953 is provisionally calculated at $9 million.

(c) U.K.'s dollar deficit in 1952 was $383 million. Figures for January-

June 1953 have not as yet been published by the United Kingdom.

SUSPENSION OF PAYMENT BY BANKS

*177. **Shri P. N. Rajabhoj:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether Government are aware that the Shree Bank Limited, Calcutta and the Pioneer Commercial Bank Limited, Calcutta, have suspended payments since December, 1946, and have gone into liquidation since that date?

(b) Is it a fact that the Official Liquidators have not yet finalised any scheme for repayment of the amounts deposited in the Banks and their branches?

(c) If so, what steps do Government propose to take in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) to (c). According to the information available with the Reserve Bank, the Shree Bank Ltd., Calcutta, and the Pioneer Commercial Bank Ltd., Calcutta, were ordered to be wound up by the Calcutta High Court on the 3rd August 1948 and the 30th June 1947 respectively. Exact dates on which these banks suspended payment are, however, not known.

The liquidators of the two banks have not been in a position to declare any dividends to the creditors so far, as, according to the information furnished by them, the realisable assets of the banks were negligible and whatever amounts were realised were utilised towards the expenses of liquidation. In view of these circumstances and the fact that the liquidators were appointed by the Calcutta High Court and work under its control, the Government of India are not in a position to intervene.

EXHIBITION

*178. **Shri Muniswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a four-man committee has been sent on behalf of an art exhibition to be shown in the Soviet Union?

(b) What is the purpose of sending such a Committee and of that exhibition?

(c) What is the proposed expenditure and the tour programme of the Committee on behalf of the exhibition?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Five artists have accompanied the exhibition.

(b) The exhibition was sent in response to an invitation extended by the Russian Art Delegation which visited India in 1952. That delegation comprised of five members and had desired that a similar delegation be sent by India. These artists are expected to help the organisation of the exhibition, and also seek to establish friendly relations with the artists of that country.

(c) All the expenses of the exhibition while in the U.S.S.R. will be borne by the Union of Artists, U.S.S.R. Government of India have agreed to meet the cost of transport and other incidental expenses upto a maximum of Rs. 40,000/-.

The programme of the exhibition will be finalised by the delegation in consultation with the Union of Artists, U.S.S.R.

SCHEDULED CASTES EMPLOYEES

*179. **Shri P. N. Rajabhoj:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Home Affairs issued orders for absorption on substantive basis of Scheduled Castes employees who had three or more years' service to their credit?

(b) Were these orders also made applicable to the Government of India Presses which are subordinate offices?

(c) How many Scheduled Castes employees have been confirmed under the above orders?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes An order was issued on the 25th May, 1948

stating that temporary employees belonging to Scheduled Castes who were recruited upto the 31st of December 1947 to the Secretariat or Attached Offices of the Government of India and who were educationally qualified for the posts held by them, should be eligible for confirmation upto a maximum of 12½ per cent. of the vacancies for direct recruitment in the grades in which they were employed provided they had rendered at least three years' service and their service was considered satisfactory by the Ministry concerned.

(b) This order did not apply to the Government of India Presses or to any other subordinate office of the Central Government.

(c) 38 Assistants and 218 Clerks have been appointed to permanent posts under this order. Most of them have already been confirmed but in some cases actual confirmation awaits satisfactory completion of probation or passing the required Typing test.

काश्मीर में पाकिस्तानी यात्री

*१८०. श्री बीरबल सिंह : क्या राज्य मंत्री बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) काश्मीर में गत वर्ष कितने व्यक्ति पाकिस्तान से आए और आबाद हुए;

(ख) क्या इस वर्ष भी पाकिस्तान से कोई यात्री वहां आए थे; तथा

(ग) यदि आए थे तो उन की संख्या ?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) to (c). Apart from one visitor last year and one this year, who were allowed to visit the State on special grounds, no Pakistan national has been allowed to visit or settle in the State. Fifty-two Kashmiris who were in Pakistan were allowed to return and settle in the State in 1952; the number of such persons this year is 7.

National Sample Survey Directorate

81. Shri H. N. Mukerjee: (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the number of people employed, officers as well as others separately in the National Sample Survey Directorate of the Ministry?

(b) What are their different scales of pay and other emoluments?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 54.]

In addition to their pay in the scale shown in the statement, the staff employed are entitled to draw dearness, house rent, and other allowances as admissible from time to time under the Government of India rules.

Levy of Estate Duty

82. Shri H. N. Mukerjee: (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state what provision has been made for additional staff in connection with the proposed levy of Estate Duty?

(b) Have the posts been filled up, and if so, how many have been filled up in the officers' and other cadres?

(c) What are their scales of pay and other emoluments?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): (a) A sum of Rs. 4,42,-200/- has been provided in this year's budget for additional staff in connection with the proposed levy of Estate Duty.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid down on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 55.]

Territorial and Political Pensions

83. Shri H. N. Mukerjee: (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state how many people are on the list of Territorial and Political Pensions in India?

(b) Do Government propose to place on the Table of the House a statement showing the names, nationality, scales of pensions etc. of these Territorial and Political Pension-holders?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) About 8,500.

(b) Yes, but the preparation of a consolidated list giving all details will take some time as most of the political pensions are administered by the respective State Governments on behalf of the Government of India.

भारतीय नागरिकों को उपाधियां

८४. **श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :** क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) महारानी एलिज़ाबेथ द्वितीय के राज्याभिषेक के अवसर पर जिन भारतीय नागरिकों तथा भारतीय सरकारी नौकरों को उपाधियां दी गईं उन की संख्या कितनी है; तथा

(ख) जिन सरकारी नौकरों को उपाधियां दी गईं, वह भारतीय नागरिक हैं या नहीं ?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Government is not aware of any Coronation title having been conferred on an Indian citizen resident in India. Titles have been conferred on nine British Officers who are at present in the employ of the Government of India.

(b) No; they are British officers serving in the Indian Armed Forces on loan temporarily.

नजरबन्द लोग

८५. **श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :** क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि इस समय कितने नज़रबन्द लोग जेलों में हैं ?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): The number of detenus in India was 189 on the 30th June 1953, which is the latest date up to which information is available with the Government of India.

PATIALA BANK, LTD.

86. Shri A. N. Vidyalankar: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Patiala Bank, Ltd., is a banking concern;

(b) whether the Reserve Bank of India, Ltd., holds the same control on this bank as it holds on other banking concerns; and

(c) if not, what Government are doing or propose to do in order to bring the Patiala Bank in line with other banks?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) The Bank of Patiala (and not the Patiala Bank Ltd.) represents at present a departmental activity of the State of PEPSU. The institution is carrying on the business of banking as defined in section 5(1)(b) of the Banking Companies Act, 1949. It is not a banking company as defined in section 5(1) (c) read with section 5(1)(d) of the said Act and does not, therefore, come within the purview of the Act.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The matter is receiving the State Government's consideration.

REGIONAL NATIONAL SAVINGS COMMISSIONER

87. Shri V. P. Nayar: (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether Government have ordered an enquiry by the Special Police Establishment into certain allegations made against the present Regional National Savings Commissioner, Delhi State?

(b) If so, has the enquiry been completed?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

NATIONAL SAVINGS SCHEME

88. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the investments in the National Savings Scheme in the form of National Savings Certificates of the denominations of Rs. 5, Rs. 10, Rs. 100, Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 5,000 during the years 1952-53 in Delhi State;

(b) the investments in the ten year Treasury Savings Deposits of Rs. 100

to Rs. 5,000 made by investors in the Regional National Savings Establishment for Delhi State; and

(c) the total expenditure on the National Savings Organisation of Delhi State for the year 1952-53?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) Gross sales of these denominations during 1952-53 were Rs. 6,720, Rs. 51,420, Rs. 9,12,100, Rs. 48,94,000 and Rs. 58,00,000 respectively.

(b) Figures of investments by denomination are not available but total sales of Treasury Savings Deposit Certificates in the Delhi State during 1952-53 amounted to Rs. 55 lakhs approximately.

(c) Rs. 84,000 approximately, which works out to less than ½ per cent. of the collection.

REHABILITATION FINANCE ADMINISTRATION

89. Dr. M. M. Das: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the annual expenditure incurred on running the Rehabilitation Finance Administration year by year from the date of its setting up to date under different heads including the pay, allowances and other expenses of the members of Boards, Advisory Boards, etc. if any;

(b) the amount of money loaned to displaced businessmen year by year;

(c) the number of business concerns taken over by the Administration from loanees up to date for failure of repayments; and

(d) the number of suits filed against loanees for failure of repayments specifying the number of cases pending and the number of cases decided?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) A statement showing details of the annual expenditure incurred by the Rehabilitation Finance Administration from year to year upto May, 1953, under various heads including pay, allowances and other expenses of the Members of the Administration, Advisory Board etc. is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 56.]

(b) the amount of money disbursed by the Administration to its loanees is as follows:—

Year	Amount (in lakhs) Rs.
1948	7·60
1949	119·76
1950	83·23
1951	173·17
1952	149·48
1953 (up to 30-6-53)	89·79
TOTAL	623·03

(c) No business concern has been taken over by the Administration for failure of repayment. In one case the loanee died leaving no heir, with the result that the Administration had to take over the assets of the deceased. In this case a loan of Rs. 13,000/- was advanced. The assets were ultimately sold by the Administration for Rs. 3,400/-.

(d) There are no court cases. All dues due to the Administration are recovered through the Collectors in accordance with Section 14 of the Rehabilitation Finance Administration Act, 1948.

Total number of cases referred to Collectors so far	571
Total number of cases settled	205
Balance	366

CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR, REHABILITATION FINANCE ADMINISTRATION

90. Dr. M. M. Das: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the pay, including allowances, if any, and the terms of service of the Chief Administrator, Rehabilitation Finance Administration; and

(b) whether any alteration in the conditions of service has been made in the case of the present incumbent differing from those of the first incumbent?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) and (b). A comparative statement showing details of the pay, including allowances, and the terms of service of Shri Rachhpal and Shri Ram Gopal, the first and the second Chief Administrator respectively, is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 57.]

The present Chief Administrator, Shri P. C. Das Gupta, has been appointed only from the 29th July, 1953 and the terms of his service are still under consideration of the Government.

REHABILITATION FINANCE ADMINISTRATION (LOSS)

91. Dr. M. M. Das: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loss incurred by the Rehabilitation Finance Administration up to date for loans which could not be realised due to closure of the business or due to the business having been taken over by the Administration:

(b) the amount spent up to date on litigation with the loanees:

(c) the machinery, if any, set up by the Administration for running the business concerns which have been taken over from loanees as a result of litigation;

(d) the number of business concerns if any, sold by the Administration after taking them over from the loanees for failure of repayments; and

(e) the amount realised from such sale?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) It is not possible at this stage to make an estimate of the amount of loss sustained by the Administration so far.

In certain cases Collectors are taking steps to recover the dues in instalments while in others the guarantors will have to be approached for recovery of the balance due from the original loanees. The compensation payable on the basis of claims assessed for immovable properties left in West Pakistan would also be available towards liquidation of dues to the Administration. As such it is too early to make a forecast of what the actual loss might be. A lump sum provision of Rs. 20,73,900/- (upto the end of 1952) for bad and doubtful debts has been made in the annual balance sheet for the year 1952.

(b) A sum of Rs. 3,000/- has been spent by the Administration so far in defending the Administration's interests before the Collectors in the 'Certificate Procedure' cases.

(c) There is no such machinery set up by the Administration so far.

(d) and (e). No business concern has been taken over and sold by the Administration for failure of repayment. In one case the loanee died leaving no heir, with the result that the Administration had to take over the assets of the deceased. In this case a loan of Rs. 13,000/- had been advanced. The assets were ultimately sold by the Administration for Rs. 3,400/-.

INTEREST ON LOANS GIVEN BY INTERNATIONAL BANK

92. Shri Nanadas: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state what is the highest rate of interest so far charged by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development on any of its loans issued and to which country?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): 4 7/8 per cent. on the loan of $19·5 million to India for the D. V. C. Project (2nd D. V. C. Loan) and a loan of $30 million to Yugoslavia; both these loans were made early this year and they have a 25-year maturity period.

GRANTS FOR EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

93. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States which have not fully utilised the Central

grants for educational development schemes in the year 1952-53;

(b) the amount that has lapsed with each State on this account; and

(c) the reasons why the grants were not fully utilised?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) to (c). The information has been called for from the State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

MIDDLE CLASS FAMILY BUDGET (SAMPLE SURVEY)

94. Shri Amjad Ali: (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the centres where the Central Government have conducted sample surveys of middle class family budgets?

(b) What are the main findings of the Survey?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). The Central Government conducted a sample survey of middle class family budgets in respect of their own employees only, during the period September 1945 to August 1946. The survey covered the four principal cities of Bombay, Madras, Calcutta and Delhi; and seven other territorial blocks consisting of Bombay Province, Madras Province, Bengal, Assam, Bihar, Orissa, United Provinces, Punjab and Central Provinces. The report of this enquiry is available in the Library

MUSEUM AT DELHI

95. Shri Dhusiya: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government propose to have any museum at Delhi;

(b) when the actual construction work will start; and

(c) whether this work will be done through contractors or by Government directly?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to establish a National Museum at New Delhi.

(b) An Expert Committee has been appointed to determine the space requirements of different sections of the Museum and to prepare a plan for the building. Government will take further action in the matter in the light of the report of the Committee

(c) No final decision has yet been taken on this point.

DACOITS IN IMPHAL

96. Shri L. J. Singh: (a) Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a gang of dacoits has been operating in the town area of Imphal since May, 1953?

(b) If so, what are the measures Government have so far taken to counteract the menace of the dacoits?

(c) How many arrests have so far been made?

(d) What are the arms, if any, recovered from the possession of the arrested men?

(e) What is the estimated amount of the total property?

(f) How far have Government received public co-operation and what is the nature of the co-operation?

(g) What is the progress so far made in counteracting menace of the dacoits?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) Three dacoities were committed in the suburb of Imphal in May 1953; there have been none since then

(b) Some arrests were made and regular patrolling is carried out by the police. Fourteen village defence parties have also been formed around Imphal town.

(c) 15 persons have been arrested so far.

(d) one serviceable Sten Gun and 23 live ammunition were seized.

(e) Property worth Rs. 4139/2/3 was stolen.

(f) The public has co-operated by forming village defence parties which act in co-operation with the Police in patrolling and other duties.

(g) No dacoity has taken place after May 1953.

NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER

97. **Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news item reported in the Calcutta edition of the 'Amrita Bazaar Patrika' dated the 3rd June, 1953, from its Silchar correspondent that the Chief Commissioner of Tripura who recently visited Aijal, the headquarters of the Lushai Hills Districts, had discussions with the Deputy Commissioners of Cachar and Lushai Hills Districts about the 'proposed' formation of a Part 'C' State consisting of Tripura, Cachar, Manipur, Lushai Hills, North Cachar, Mikir Hills, Naga Hills and Garo Hills, etc.?

(b) Do Government accept the correctness of the said report and if not, what is the actual position?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) Yes.

(b) The report is incorrect. The object of the visit of the Chief Commissioner, Tripura, to Aijal, was to study the administrative methods followed in Lushai Hills Districts.

MANUFACTURE OF BREN GUNS

98. **Shri Gopala Rao:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Bren Guns are being manufactured now in India?

(b) If so, are they being manufactured by private firms or by Government Ordnance Factory?

(c) Can the production meet the entire needs of the Indian Armed Forces?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) Yes

(b) Only in Government Ordnance Factories.

(c) Yes.

'KABLIWALAS' (MONEY LENDING)

99. **Shri D. N. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether 'Kabliwalas' are legally entitled to carry on money-lending business in India?

(b) Are they legally entitled to charge interest at the rate of 2 annas per rupee per month?

(c) If so, what is the reason for this favourable treatment to these foreign nationals as against the Indian money-lenders?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) So far as is known there is no part of India in which a particular class of persons is prohibited from doing money-lending business merely on grounds such as nationality.

(b) 'Money-lenders and Money-lending' being a State subject, legislation regulating the business of money-lending has been passed by different States and the maximum rates of interest which money-lenders may charge are statutorily fixed. Nowhere does the maximum come up to 2 as. per rupee per month. The attention of the Reserve Bank of India and the State Governments is, however, being drawn to the usurious rates of interest being charged by the class mentioned at (a).

(c) Does not arise

GOLD MINES

100. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state what was the total quantity and value of gold produced from the gold mines during the years 1950-51; 1951-52 and 1952-53?

(b) What was the average cost of production per tola of gold from these mines?

(c) In what other regions has geological survey for gold been carried out?

(d) What have been the results of this survey?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) to (d). A statement giving the information required is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 58.]

BASIC EDUCATION

101. Shri Balmiki: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Central Government to further the cause of basic education from primary to post-graduate level with a view to developing its technique and practice under the intensive educational development scheme in all the States; and

(b) the cost of this scheme shared by the Centre and the States?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 59.]

SMUGGLING

102. Shri Biren Dutt: Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state:

(a) whether gangs of smugglers parade the streets of Agartala Town with contraband goods;

(b) whether they threaten the public at night and ask them for help in their affairs;

(c) whether normal life in some parts is obstructed by these gangs; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) No.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

REHABILITATION FINANCE ADMINISTRATION

103. Th. Lakshman Singh Charak: (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state how many displaced persons from West Pakistan, Sind or East Pakistan, etc. were given loan by the Rehabilitation Finance Administration in the year 1951-52 and 1952-53?

(b) In how many instalments is the loan repayable?

(c) What is the rate of interest charged thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) The Administration do not maintain statistics according to the financial year and, therefore, the total number of loan applications sanctioned during the calendar years 1951, 1952 and upto the 30th June, 1953 is given below:—

Year	West Pakistan excluding Sind	Sind	East Pakistan	Total
1951	1088	1261	1534	3883
1952	1240	1220	949	3409
1953 (up to 30-6-53)	872	662	743	2277

(b) The loans are generally repayable in 8 yearly instalments. However in case of loans for the business of "contracting" they are usually made repayable in 5 yearly instalments and in case of "transport" business in 48 monthly instalments.

(c) The rate of interest charged on loans is 6 per cent. per annum subject to a rebate of 1 per cent. if the payment of instalment is made on or before the due date.

INCOME-TAX

104. Shri Syed Ahmed: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the number of persons or firms assessed to Income-Tax (i) from Hoshangabad District in Khandwa Circle and (ii) Khandwa portion of Khandwa District in that Circle?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): The number of persons assessed from Hoshangabad District in Khandwa Circle is 772 and from Khandwa portion of Khandwa District is 579.

BACKWARD CLASSES COMMISSION

105. Shri Muniswamy: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state how far the Backward Classes Commission has progressed in visiting the various places of our country?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): The Commission which commenced its work on the 1st March 1953 has so far visited the States of Hyderabad and Mysore.

राष्ट्रीय भाषा

१०६. **श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी :** क्या शिक्षा मंत्री बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) १३ वर्ष में राष्ट्रीय भाषा के प्रचारण के विषय में श्री गाडगिल ने जो योजना बनाई है क्या सरकार का ध्यान उस की ओर दिलाया गया है;

(ख) क्या सरकार ने श्री गाडगिल द्वारा बनाये गये कार्यक्रम को स्वीकार किया है या कि इस प्रयोजन के लिये कोई अन्य कार्यक्रम बनाया है; तथा

(ग) यदि बनाया है तो उस की मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) to (c). This scheme as well as several others have been published in the Press. Government try to benefit from such suggestions. A Statement is placed on the Table of the House which will show what Government are doing in this connection. [*See* Appendix I. annexure No. 60.]

AMENITIES TO THE SECRETARIAT STAFF

107. Ch. Raghubir Singh: (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government are going to provide amenities to the Secretariat Staff?

(b) Are there any details of the amenities so far worked out?

(c) Has any Committee been set up to work out these details?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The Secretariat Staff Welfare and amenities Committee has now been set up and the details of the amenities and other facilities to be provided are being worked out on an organised scale.

EX-SERVICEMEN'S POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION FUND

108. Prof. D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money that has been spent by the Government of the Punjab out of the *Ex*-Servicemen's Post-War Reconstruction Fund up to the end of 1952; and

(b) the items on which this money has been spent?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) The total expenditure from the Punjab Post War Reconstruction Fund up to 31st December 1952 was Rs. 26,62,209-13-1.

(b) A statement showing the details of the expenditure is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I. annexure No. 61.]

SMALL SAVINGS SCHEME

109. Shri M. L. Dwivedi: (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the total number of employees serving under the Small Savings Scheme of the Government of India?

(b) Is the scheme likely to become a permanent feature?

(c) If so, has any decision been taken or is likely to be taken in this matter?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The total number of employees serving in the Small Savings Scheme as on 1st July, 1953 was 693.

(b) and (c). The Small Savings Scheme is intended to be of a permanent nature. The question of mak-

ing the Organisation permanent is under consideration.

विश्व विद्यालय

११०. श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : (क) क्या शिक्षा मंत्री बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या नवीन विश्वविद्यालयों की स्थापना के प्रश्न पर पूर्णतया विचार करने के लिय नियुक्त विशेषज्ञों का इस सम्बन्ध में प्रतिवेदन सरकार को प्रस्तुत हुआ है ?

(ख) यदि भाग 'क' का उत्तर नाकारात्मक हो तो इस प्रतिवेदन की उपलब्धि कब तक सम्भव है ?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

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THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Wednesday, 5th August, 1953

The House met at a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(*See Part I*)

9-15 A.M.

POINT OF ORDER

Shri Frank Anthony (Nominated—Anglo-Indians): Sir, may I rise to a point of order?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No. The business of the House is not allowed to be interrupted by anything else, unless I have been given previous notice of it. There can be no point of order between what has happened already and what is going to happen.

Shri Frank Anthony: Is it not the right of a Member to rise to a point of order at any time? Rule 291 is very clear on this point.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: A point of order must relate to a particular matter. One matter is over, and the other matter is yet to be taken up. Where is the point of order then? In a vacuum?

Shri Frank Anthony: Will the Chair please listen to me?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have heard the hon. Member.

Shri Frank Anthony: Is it in order, without allowing any Member to formulate his point of order, to divine his thoughts?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is no point of order in a vacuum. There must be something with respect to which a point of order can be raised, some proceedings of the House, such as questions or other business. After one item is over, and before the next item is taken up, where is the point of order? I would not allow the hon. Member to raise the point of order. The hon. Member may kindly tell me, under what rule, he is raising this point of order.

Shri Frank Anthony: Under rule 291, is it not the basic right of any hon. Member to raise a point of order, at any time?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No. That is my ruling. A point of order arises only with respect to a matter which is current, which is being looked into or being debated on the floor of the House. There cannot be a point of order on a matter which has concluded, or on a matter which is yet to begin. Therefore, there is no point of order.

Shri Frank Anthony: May I state my point of order, Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No. I would not allow the hon. Member to intervene.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

REPORT AND STATEMENTS OF REHABILITATION FINANCE ADMINISTRATION

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following documents in accordance with sub-section (2) of section 18 of the Rehabilitation Finance Administration Act, 1948, namely:—

(i) Report of the Rehabilitation Finance Administration for the half-year ended the 31st December 1952;

(ii) Analysis of charges for the year ended the 31st December 1952;

(iii) Statement of loans called up during the year 1952; and

(iv) Statement of overdue instalments for the period ended the 31st December 1952. [*Placed in Library. See* No. IV. O.4 (35).]

POINT OF ORDER

Shri Frank Anthony: May I raise the point of order, Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: On this?

Shri Frank Anthony: On the rule itself, Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, no. On this matter which is placed on the Table of the House, if he has any objection to its being placed, then there is a point of order, and I shall hear it.

Shri Frank Anthony: My point of order is with respect to the general rights of Members to raise points of order.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: General rights of Members can always be raised under any motion made in that behalf. Let me make it clear. Any motion that has to be made in the House, on which the decision of the Chair or the decision of the House is invited, must always be intimated to the Chair in advance, under the rules.

Shri S. S. More (Sholapur): Under what rule, Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is my ruling. No motion can be made on the floor of the House suddenly by any hon. Member. Rules have been prescribed for that, in the case of certain motions. I will not recognise any other motions here. A point of order can be raised on a motion which is current in the House. With respect to its admissibility or otherwise, a point of order can be raised. A point of order cannot be raised on anything which is not now current before the House. That is the first point.

The matters that can be brought before the House are questions, adjournment motions and other such motions. So far as questions are concerned, they have to be admitted first, and no question can be raised here with respect to that. As for motions, they can be admitted with the Chair's consent, after they are tabled, or by ballot and so on and so forth. There is procedure for all this.

Whatever matter is to be brought before the House must be regulated by some rule or other. I ought not to be asked suddenly under what rule an hon. Member has been prevented or can be prevented from raising any matter. Every hon. Member can come and go on talking. It is under a particular rule that an hon. Member must show to the Chair that he is entitled to speak and raise that matter. There is absolutely no such thing being done. I have been saying this again and again. If any hon. Member wants to raise anything on the floor of the House, he must show to me under what rule he is entitled to raise that matter. Otherwise, he is not entitled to talk.

Now, this matter is over.

Shri Frank Anthony: I am quoting the rule, Sir. . .

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If any hon. Member wants to invite my attention to any particular thing, I am prepared to hear him. Let him state it, but not here; I am not going to interrupt the proceedings of the House, merely because an hon. Member is saying, 'There is absolutely no hurry for this'. Let hon. Members come along, talk to me or write to me.

Shri A. K. Gopalan (Cannanore): There is one single point, Sir...

Shri R. K. Chaudhury (Gauhati): Supposing I find a stranger in the House, can I not raise the point of order, Sir?

Shri A. K. Gopalan: Yesterday there was one point of order by a certain hon. Member here, when the Chair said, sit down, no point of order. It is on that matter which happened yesterday, that the hon. Member wants to raise a point of order now, because according to the rules, there is the right for every Member to raise a point of order. It is that point, which the hon. Member wants to point out now.

That happened yesterday, and the hon. Member did not say anything about it yesterday, because when he rose to his point of order, the Chair said, "No point of order". Then the hon. Member sat down. Today he wants to rise to a point of order to show that yesterday what had been done, was not correct, according to the rules.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee (Hooghly): May I point out the rule to you, Sir? Rule 291 says:

> "(1) Any member may at any time submit a point of order for the decision of the Speaker..."

Your ruling is going against it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: My ruling is clear. If the rule is interpreted that way, then after some business is over in the House, this evening or later on, any hon. Member may raise a point of order regarding that matter, saying 'Under this rule, I can raise a point of order on a matter which is disposed of'. But the interpretation of the rule is that a point of order must be raised on a matter which is now under discussion before the House, waiting to be disposed of. That is the interpretation of the rule, and that is what has been followed from time to time.

Regarding the matter that was referred to by the hon. Leader of the Communist Party, what I would say is this: Yesterday I said, "this is a matter which cannot arise now, after one matter is over and before another is to be started". If the hon. Member had any objection to that, or was of the opinion that my ruling was not correct or that some particular course had to be adopted for the future, then he could have brought it to my notice. I am always available to hon. Members. It is not as if I am an individual away from them. The only way in which it can be settled, if they do not want to come and see me and explain to me their points of view, is that they can write to me. Then I will consider the matter. Instead of that, if suddenly the matter is raised here, even if we spend a whole day over it today, is it not necessary for me to have some time to consider this matter? Shall I interrupt the business of the House and put off all that is on the agenda, dislocate the work of the House, and address myself to this matter? Unless it be that on this depends the entire work of the House, I will not do so. Therefore, what I am submitting to hon. Members is that they can always write to me, or always see me. And it is open to me to change my ruling in this House, provided I am advised differently, after looking into the matter with reference to the rules. My only anxiety is that we should get through the work as on the Order Paper. Hon. Members may intimate to me what they want to raise, and I am prepared to have a discussion on this matter, if neces-

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

sary, today or the day after tomorrow. But let all hon. Members know that this is one of the items on the agenda, which has to be gone into. If notice had been given, I would have requested—if I had not been able to judge this matter—the Law Minister to be present here to explain the position. I want that intimation should be given to me beforehand. Offhand, nobody can answer these matters. In these circumstances, I would only urge upon hon. Members not to raise this matter now on the floor of the House. Let them write to me, and I will consider the matter and give my ruling.

Shri Frank Anthony: I am raising a point of order arising out of the Chair's remarks. I am very grateful to the Chair for asking us to come and see you, but my point is this: Is it not the inalienable right of every Member in this House to raise a point of order, at any time?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No. I have already stated that 'at any time' does not mean that if yesterday something was over, a point of order can be raised today, on that. As I am at present advised, a point of order cannot be raised on any matter, which is over or which is yet to start. In between, there cannot be any point of order.

If hon. Members want to satisfy me that a point of order can be raised at any time, or that it has been interpreted differently, then I am prepared to look into the matter. Let us not spend away the time of the House today on that matter. Hon. Members may write to me, and send any papers in that connection.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: There is a difference between seeing and talking to you personally, and the right of a Member. Whenever it is convenient to us, we shall always come and see you. But in the matter of right, if you deny that any hon. Member in this House has got a right to raise a point of order at any time according to the rules, then you are denying to us the ordinary right that we have. The rule has been misunderstood, and if you do not allow us the right, as Members, to raise a point of order at any time, then I walk out; I strongly protest against it.

(Shri A. K. Gopalan and some other hon. Members left the House)

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

(i) NOTIFICATION UNDER INSURANCE ACT.

(ii) FINANCIAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS OF INDIA AND U.K.

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Ministry of Finance Notification No. 102-IF(1)/52, dated the 4th February 1953, under sub-section (3) of section 114 of the Insurance Act, 1938. [*Placed in Library. See* No. S-87/53.]

I also lay on the Table a copy of the Financial Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of the United Kingdom signed in New Delhi on the 20th July 1953. [*Placed in Library. See* No. IV. A.1(21).]

(i) REPORT OF COMMISSIONER FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES.

(ii) NOTIFICATION UNDER SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES OF MINISTERS ACT.

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1952 under clause (2) of article 338 of the Constitution. [*Placed in Library. See* No. IV. A.4(1).]

I also lay on the Table a copy of the Ministry of Home Affairs Notification No. 18/12/53-Public, dated the

10th June 1953, in accordance with sub-section (2) of section 11 of the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers Act, 1952. [*Placed in Library. See* No. S-88/53.]

CENTRAL SILK BOARD (AMENDMENT) BILL.

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): I beg to move*:

> "That the Bill further to amend the Central Silk Board Act, 1948, be taken into consideration."

This is a fairly simple measure and, therefore, I shall content myself at this stage with drawing the attention of the House to three principal changes that are sought to be made by this measure in the Central Silk Board Act. The first change that is sought to be made by this measure relates to the scope of the functions of the Silk Board established under the Central Silk Board Act. Formerly, the subject-matter of the functions of the Board related only to raw silk. As hon. Members can easily appreciate, the silk industry comprises various stages and we considered that it would not serve the purpose of the silk industry's development if we excluded the other stages apart from the development of raw silk. The stages range from the growth of mulberries right up to the weaving of silk fabrics. I think I need not dilate further on this point. This change will enable the Silk Board to function in relation to all the stages of the silk industry.

The second important change that is sought to be made is this: According to the present constitution of the Silk Board, the Minister of Commerce and Industry is the Chairman of the Board. The fact of the Minister being the Chairman many a time leads to anomalies. He is the final authority in respect of decisions to be taken in regard to the silk industry. If he is, in addition, also the Chairman of the Board which is entrusted with the work of devising measures for the progress of the silk industry, it is likely that ultimately as Minister he may have to take decisions which are different from the recommendations of the Silk Board. In order to remove this anomaly, we have now provided in this amending Bill that the person who will be Chairman of this Board will not be the Minister hereafter. He will be a person nominated by Government. The House will easily appreciate that such an arrangement will facilitate the better working of the Board.

Thirdly, as hon. Members will see, we have added something to the subjects on which the Board is to function, and that change has been sought to be introduced by clause 8 amending section 13 of the original Act. I will not take the time of the House by inviting specific attention to the additional subjects that have been added to the list of functions of the Board.

These are the three principal changes. I do not think they require any large justification for their acceptance. If any points are raised during the course of the debate, I shall only be too happy to refer to them in my reply.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

> "That the Bill further to amend the Central Silk Board Act, 1948, be taken into consideration."

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri (Berhampore): I expected that the hon. Minister, while moving this Bill, would give us an indication of a comprehensive policy of the Government with regard to the silk industry generally. As you know, Sir, the silk industry is one of the most important cottage-*cum*-small-scale industries in

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*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

[Shri T. K. Chaudhuri]

the country, giving employment, according to my computation, to nearly two million people of the country. If we take the industry from the stage of mulberry cultivation and cocoon rearing to the production of finished silk, there is hardly any doubt that this industry is not only capable of giving employment to such a huge number of people, but it could provide employment for many more if the Government did its duty by this industry. Apparently, it seems from the Statement of Objects and Reasons as if the Bill has a very limited objective: number one, the reconstitution of the Board, and number two, extending the scope of the Silk Board from raw silk industry to silk industry in general. But the fact is that these so-called limited objectives serve to screen the callousness and inactivity of the Government with regard to this industry. The gravamen of our complaint against the Government is this, that it has so far neglected the silk industry absolutely. The only significant improvement that was registered in the industry's progress was achieved during the war time. As a result of the natural protection afforded by war conditions—stoppage of raw silk imports from Japan—and secondly, by the demand that was provided by war requirements like parachute-making, the industry got a certain spurt. Then after the war the Central Silk Board came into existence, but as the latest report of the Silk Board itself admits, it has been able to do very little up till now with the limited resources at its disposal, and it has mainly contented itself with securing to the industry ground already gained or protecting for it the limited improvement that was registered during war time.

Raw silk production in this country satisfies only half of the country's requirements, but apart from raw silk production, there is the question of the silk weaving industry. I come from a district of West Bengal which has long been famous for silk weaving industry. But, I can say this with all the emphasis at my command that the silk weavers there are today facing complete ruin. I know that it is the State Government which is primarily responsible for looking after the industry in that State. But, at the same time, a great deal depends upon the policy which is followed by the Central Government with regard to imports and exports, with regard to the finding of foreign markets, with regard to effecting those improvements which would make employment or engagement in the different branches of the silk industry really an economic proposition.

I looked very carefully into the few pages of the Report of the Silk Board which has been made available to us. There I fail to find any reference to what has been done for cocoon improvement. One of the greatest handicaps that the industry suffers from is the poor silk yield from our cocoons. Unless the cocoon variety can be improved little can be done with regard to reduction of the cost of production in the competitive world of today.

I have enquired of the silk weavers and they complained to me that even the price that they get in the market for their product hardly suffices to recompense for the cost of raw silk or silk thread which they purchase. As a result, most of them have been giving up silk weaving and taking to cultivation in most of the silk weaving centres of my district.

So far as the production of raw silk is concerned, I find from the journal *Commerce and Industry* which is supplied to us by the Ministry that out of nearly 110 or 115 filatures in West Bengal only ten were working in 1950-51 and I do not know if even those ten are working now. The real state seems to be that raw silk production has become, under the circumstances, a costly affair and we cannot compete successfully with our main competitor, Japan, in this respect.

Then there is another danger, artificial silk or art silk. To a certain extent, artifical silk or art silk satisfies the demand for cheap luxury goods but, at the same time, looking to the large number of men who are supported by the silk industry proper, directly or indirectly, and the vast number of men who could be supported by this industry and to the special nature of this industry, its intimate connection with agriculture, its character as a cottage and small-scale industry, I feel most strongly that Government should not go out of their way, at this stage at least, to encourage the production of artificial silk or the importation of artificial silk. This is all with regard to the over-all policy that has to be followed.

The resources of the Silk Board would depend upon the cess that is levied on certain categories of raw silk. But, for some time to come, there should be a definite and sizable allocation from Central finances towards the improvement of this industry. I mean that the resources of the Board should be augmented by direct grants from the Central Government, if we are to effect any real improvement in this industry and if we are to save the poor raw silk producers, the cocoon rearers and rulers, on the one hand, and the silk weavers on the other, who are facing absolute ruin today. If we are to save them, Government have no other alternative than to go the farthest length in the matter of augmenting the resources of the Silk Board.

I now turn to the constitution of the Board. The Bill seeks to reconstitute the Board. But, somehow or other, in the matter of reconstitution, Government seem to be bent upon taking all power of nomination in their own hands, but to make it acceptable to the Opposition, perhaps to this side of the House, they have made a reference to representation of labour. Unfortunately, I find that labour has been allocated only one seat. The clauses that relate to the representation of this House or the other House of Parliament in the Board have been vaguely drafted that one does not know whom this House or the other House.....

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): May I explain that position to the hon. Member? The position is this: The Minister makes a motion that two or four Members be elected in such manner as the Speaker may determine. So, there is no question of the Government having any choice in the election. The Speaker determines the manner of election; it is only a matter of form.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: I am afraid, in spite of this clarification, if you look at sub-clause (c) of clause 4, you will find that it provides for six persons to be elected by Parliament, four from the House of the People and two from the Council of States. It is not clear.....

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: How is it vague?

Dr. M. M. Das (Burdwan—Reserved —Sch. Castes): General election is not prevented by this provision.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: Then, with regard to the constitution of the Board, one significant alteration has been made. With regard to persons to be nominated by the Governments of Madras and Bengal, in the main Act, of the two persons to be nominated by the respective State Governments, one was definitely stated to be a non-official, but that saving clause is no longer there and the State Governments are now free to nominate two officials, if they like. If the Government are sincere in giving representation to labour on this Board, they should bear one factor in mind that the labour employed in this factory, does not come under factory labour, as the industry is not an organised one. It is, therefore, essential that the producers should be represented and I would be satisfied if the Government would see their way to hold

[Shri T. K. Chaudhuri]

out an assurance—as the hon. Commerce Minister did in the case of the Tea Bill—that the relevant association of producers would be permitted to suggest a panel of names of its representatives for nomination on the Board. I hope I have made it clear that what the present Bill proposes with regard to the constitution of the Board is not at all satisfactory and if the objectives stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons are to be really achieved and representation provided for the various interests—including producers—Government would do well to look into this clause of the Bill and alter it accordingly.

Shri Karmarkar: Am I to take it that the hon. Member is not satisfied with the representation given to the producers in sub-clause (i) which reads: "not more than three persons to be nominated by the Central Government to represent the producers of raw silk".

Dr. M. M. Das: It is too inadequate and insufficient.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: If the hon. Minister would look into the amendments I have tabled, he will see that I am particularly concerned with representation given to the States of Madras, Bengal, Assam and Bihar etc. There, the producers in some way or other should be associated directly.

I have one other suggestion to make. It seems to me somehow or other that the class of cocoon rearers has been neglected.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Who are the cocoon rearers? They are all silk producers, I suppose.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: Cocoon rearers have a direct relation with the industry and they are a special class, at least in my part of the country. I must say that like the weavers they are also facing great difficulties at least in the districts of Malda, Murshidabad, Bankura of West Bengal, where cocoon rearing has been practised for long. The rearers are facing starvation. As a matter of fact, they are giving up cocoon rearing due to the state in which the industry finds itself today.

In sub-clause (j) I find representation given to producers of spun silk industry, silk throwing and twisting industries and silk weaving industry. I think something should be done for the representation of cocoon rearers as well. If you really want to improve the silk industry, you must first take up the question of improvement of cocoon rearing. The rearers have to be trained in modern hygienic and scientific methods of cocoon rearing. Their associations should be given representation on these Boards, either by nomination by the Central Government, or by nomination by the State Governments. There are only two important cocoon rearing areas in the country: one is West Bengal and the other is Mysore and Madras.

Shri R. K. Chaudhury (Gauhati): What about Assam? No cocoon rearing there?

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: There are cocoons; but mulberry silk does not have the same importance there. Assam mainly produces *muga* and *eri*. So, I feel, the representation of cocoon rearers on the Board is very important. I have, therefore, tabled an amendment, which, if accepted, empowers the Central Government to nominate three persons to represent the interests of cocoon rearers. This can easily be done by nominating one from South India, one from West Bengal and one from non-mulberry silk producing areas like Assam. I hope Government would see their way to accept my basic suggestions in this respect.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy (Mysore): The hon. Member who spoke just now has made a number of concrete suggestions with which I concur. Regarding the problems of silk industry, I have been saying on

more than one occasion that they have not been properly solved by the Ministry. I have been telling that the Ministry is following a policy of neglect. Today the crisis facing the silk industry is assuming greater proportions and I feel that unless very drastic and timely measures are taken by the Centre, it would be very difficult to rehabilitate this industry.

My hon. friend here has pointed out that nearly two million workers are subsisting on this industry. But it is not a correct figure. The number of people who are dependent on this industry exceeds two millions; it may exceed even three millions. Anyway, I want the Ministry to appreciate the gravity of the situation. Today the Government of India is very anxious to work out the Five Year Plan, and we are supposed to be living in the period of planning. But with regard to the silk industry there is not even a semblance of planning on the part of the Government: no planned approach, no planned proposals, and no planned programme. The hon. Minister, who had gone to Bangalore recently, presided over a Silk Conference. He appreciated the many problems facing the silk industry. He understood them also. But what is painful is that there is lack of sincerity on the part of the Minister to fulfil the expectations of the various interests involved in this industry.

The problems of this industry are numerous. Take the case of the mulberry planters. They have been thoroughly disillusioned. They do not want to produce more mulberry and they do not want to rear cocoon, because the price they are getting does not meet even the cost of production. When we complain that there is not much raw silk available, we must know that the real cause for this is the discouragement received at the hands of the Government by the cocoon growers. If you want self-sufficiency in raw silk it is absolutely necessary that the Government should launch upon a programme of intensifying mulberry cultivation and cocoon rearing. For this it is absolutely necessary to bring down the cost of production. More scientific methods are necessary, better seeds must be introduced and better varieties of mulberry should be cultivated. For all this it requires a huge amount of money. The State Governments are themselves helpless because financially their position is very precarious. So only the Central Government can do something in this matter.

The same story is there with regard to the production of silk fabrics. There are a number of factories but they are not working to full capacity. If encouragement is given to these factories to work to full capacity, then there will be problem of accumulation of stocks. There are no marketing facilities to clear the stocks. Unfortunately in this country there is no organised market for the silk industry. The various interests, handloom weavers, powerloom weavers, and filatures are agitating to have a regulated market. In Mysore, in particular, there has been agitation for this since long, and I feel that there should be regulated markets for selling raw silk. The system now prevailing is that the raw silk producers have to go to Bangalore from all over the State of Mysore. It is the same case everywhere in India. They have to sell their silk at the prevailing market rate to some commission agents. The commission agents take commission both from the raw silk producers as well as from the purchasers, and they make a lot of money. In Kollegal the silk industry has collapsed thoroughly because they do not have enough finance, and if they produce fabrics there is no demand for those fabrics. And most of the handlooms are not working. Many families which are depending on handlooms are starving. So the most important reform that should be introduced is that the Government should think of organising a market for the silk industry. Unless that is done a fair deal cannot be ex-

[Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy]

pected and the cocoon growers or rearers and others cannot be expected to have a fair share in this industry. So I urge upon the Minister to take concrete steps in this direction.

10 A.M.

Another important matter I want to urge upon the Minister is that the mere reconstitution of the Silk Board will not help the industry. We have seen how the Silk Board has been functioning in the past four or five years. The Silk Board actually came into existence in 1948 or 1949. Till today, except making a few recommendations and issuing a few reports, it has not done any concrete work. And I was told by some hon. Members that the Silk Board is not meeting as often as possible. This is because the Minister who till today was the Chairman of the Board was very callous, negligent or indifferent to the problem of the silk industry. So, when the Minister comes forward with an amending Bill requiring more power, I entertain my own misgivings. What guarantee is there that, by giving these powers to the Centre over the entire silk industry, this industry will be rehabilitated and helped? I therefore want that a categorical assurance should be given by the hon. Minister that more help will be given to the silk industry. The Silk Board till today has given nearly Rs. 6½ lakhs as grants—in three years. I read in a report that they want to give another Rs. 12 lakhs by way of grant. This is not at all adequate; it is only a drop in the ocean. If the silk industry is to thrive, if it is to become a stable industry, it is necessary that more grants should be forthcoming from the Centre. And the Centre should give up its present lukewarm attitude.

Regarding the constitution of the Board, my hon. friend who preceded me has pointed out certain loopholes. I would draw attention to one particular matter and it is this: that most of the members of the Board will be nominated either by the respective State Governments or by the Centre; only a few will be elected by Parliament. I want to suggest that it would be better to get accredited representatives of various associations which are functioning in this industry. That is a democratic method. It is also a better method. That will give wide scope for various associations to bring their problems through their representatives. So I suggest that instead of nominating various members on the Board, as far as possible, various associations may be asked to send representatives and a quota for membership may be fixed for them.

Regarding the term of office of members of the Board, I feel that the term should be fixed in the Act itself which has been left to the rule-making authorities. I feel, that the time-limit—the period of the Board—should be a part and parcel of the Act itself. So I would suggest that the hon. Minister may look into this question also.

Regarding the policy of the Government with regard to waste silk, I want to say one or two words. We are producing silk waste and the Government of India is exporting much of the silk-waste to foreign countries. I would advise the hon. Minister that the silk-waste may be utilised for manufacture of spun silk in India itself. There is only one spun-silk industry in the whole of India. That is in Mysore and that industry is collapsing because of various reasons. I need not dilate upon those reasons. I simply say that more spun silk factories may be established and the spun silk yarn may be utilised for the manufacture of silk fabrics. Those fabrics will be cheaper than pure silk fabrics and there will be demand and a good market for these fabrics. So instead of exporting waste silk to foreign countries, it is necessary that the Government of India should draw out a plan to consume the entire silk-waste here.

There is another point which I want to refer. That is about the competition which is prevailing between various silk interests. There is a keen competition between artificial silk and pure silk. There is also competition between handloom and power loom. There is no demarcation of areas for these various types of production. It is very necessary that the Government should, as far as possible, resolve this competition. Government on the one hand seems to be encouraging artificial silk industry, rayon industry and mixed fabric industry, on the other hand they want to encourage pure silk production. It is rather anomalous. Both these sections have come into existence in India. We cannot abolish one for the sake of the other, but I want that the competition between the different branches of the one and the same industry may be regulated. Further, there may be sampling of fabrics which is not being done now though it was urged a number of times by me and others on the floor of the House. No grading or stamping has been done. If it has been done in certain areas it has not been done properly. So I draw the attention of the hon. Minister to this particular aspect. It is very necessary that a stamping method should be introduced and various qualities of silk should be properly stamped. Mixed fabrics are being sold in the name of pure fabrics. So the public is being deceived at the hands of the merchants. It is necessary, therefore, that the Government should introduce grading and stamping methods in this industry.

Finally, I have only to give a word of caution. We are supposed to be in a planning period. The Government is very interested in planning. Unfortunately the silk industry in this planning period is in the most chaotic condition and the policy of the Government has not helped this industry at all. If I am allowed to use a stronger term, I may say that the policy of the Government with regard to silk industry is just like the policy of a eunuch. I warn that this policy should be immediately stopped.

Dr. M. M. Das: I have listened with great attention to the speeches delivered by the previous two speakers of the gang of Opposition in this House. The term "gang" was applied in reference to the Congress Ministers.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This word which was used by this side has been repeated by the other side. They cancel each other. Hereafter, I think, Members may avoid the use of this word.

Dr. M. M. Das: I am grateful to you, Sir, for this ruling which is certainly in my favour.

My hon. friend from Murshidabad, Mr. Chaudhuri, coming from the district which is traditionally the home of silk industry for long past, has said many important things about this industry. Although I differ from him in most of the views and conclusions that he has drawn, yet I cannot but support him in his views expressed with regard to artificial silk.

Some Hon. Members: So you have joined the 'gang'.

Dr. M. M. Das: Artificial silk has become the formidable enemy of natural silk. I suggest that the Government should come forward to consider this matter carefully and ban the term 'artificial silk' so that it may not be used for artificial yarns.

The rayon industry has been a recent industry in this country and for the sake of facilities—rather to cheat the public—it has adopted the name of artificial silk. Silk is a produce from insects whereas the rayon is a vegetable product. What relation there exists between the rayon yarn and natural silk I do not understand. So, I suggest and appeal to the Government to put a ban upon this word "artificial silk" being used by the rayon industry. An analogy can be drawn from

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the hydrogenated oils, that is, Dalda and *vanaspati*. Formerly it was sold in the market as vegetable ghee but the Government, on full consideration, put a ban on the use of such a term as 'ghee' and now it is sold in the market as vegetable product or something like it. Similar ban should be imposed upon this term 'artificial silk' from being used in the case of rayon yarns. I ask the Government to consider the matter fully.

My hon. friend Mr. Gurupadaswamy has made some caustic remarks about the Government but the most caustic and unwelcome and unfair remark has been that he has charged the Government and the hon. Minister in particular of insincerity. I know the Government has not been able to do what it should have done in case of these industries but it is extremely unfair to impute motives to hon. Ministers of this House and especially to charge them with insincerity.

Mr. Gurupadaswamy spoke about the want of markets. If the hon. Member goes through the Reports of the Silk Board carefully, he will find that during the last three or four years Government has taken steps for the building up of silk cocoon markets in the different States in the country. They have made lump sum grants for this purpose.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: Selling markets: not cocoon.

Dr. M. M. Das: What does he mean? Produced silk, or raw silk or filature silk or spun silk?

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: There is difference between silk and cocoon. The hon. Member ought to understand that.

Dr. M. M. Das: I understand all that you say about silk. What do you mean? Is it raw silk or filature silk or finished products?

Some Hon. Members: Finished products.

Dr. M. M. Das: If we examine the condition of the silk industry before the war, during the war and after the war, we will find that most of the allegations made by the two previous speakers are absolutely without any foundation.

Protection was given to the silk industry—I speak subject to correction—in 1934. But, in spite of that protection, the condition of the silk industry became very bad roundabout 1938 or 1939. During the war, when the import of silk was stopped completely, there was a great demand for silk for the manufacture of parachutes and other war materials; the silk industry got an impetus and production went up. The peak production during the war years in this country was two million pounds a year. The Silk Board was established in 1949. After the war, we find that the production has not gone down. On the contrary, the total production for 1952 is five lakh pounds more. That is, the production has gone up from two million to 2·5 million pounds. I do not know what importance can be attached to the allegations made by the hon. Member in the face of the fact that the silk production has gone up.

Coming to the Bill itself, the principal Act was passed in 1948, about five years back and the Silk Board came into existence in 1949 about four years ago. During these four years, the Silk Board has made sincere attempts to develop this industry with the limited resources that have been placed at its disposal. The cess on filature silk and spun silk which was provided in the principal Act of 1948 was not considered proper and expedient to be imposed by the Central Government. Therefore, the Silk Board had to carry on its onerous and difficult duties of rendering help to this industry with the meagre Central Government grants that came into its hands. The total amount of grants given by the Central Government during the last four years is about ten

lakhs of rupees. Out of these rupees ten lakhs, Rs. 6,84,000 have been disbursed among the different silk producing States up to the year 1953 and Rs. 1,57,000 are going to be disbursed during the current year. The achievements of the Silk Board, as I have said, have not been very negligible, because production has gone up from two million to 2·5 million pounds. What is more important is that the Silk Board has infused, so to say, a new spirit into this industry. Experienced people have come out with the production of small machinery, highly suitable for cottage industries in this line. In this connection, I pay my tribute to one Mr. Nidhi Ram Das of Gauhati, Assam, who has invented two machines, highly suitable for cottage industries, one for reeling silk and another for weaving *muga* silk and other inferior qualities of silk. I request the Government to give suitable rewards to this gentleman who has invented these machines. These two machines have proved very efficacious in their trial in the different silk centres in the different provinces of India.

During the last four years, since the Silk Board came into existence, the Government and the Board have faced certain difficulties in the execution of the plans and programmes for the development of the silk industry. These difficulties could only be removed by a suitable amendment of the principal Act of 1948. The present measure before the House has been brought for this purpose. The most important amendment suggested in this Bill is the inclusion of the silk weaving industry within the ambit of the Silk Board Act. The Silk Board, in the execution of its plans, felt that if the weaving section of the silk industry is not brought under the control of this Act, that is, the Silk Board, it will not be possible for them to carry out satisfactorily their plans and programmes. This matter was fully discussed by the Board in their meetings in June 1950 and January 1951 and they passed a resolution recommending to the Central Government that the silk weaving industry which is a corollary to the raw silk industry should also be dealt with by the Central Silk Board. But, the Central Government did not accept this recommendation of the Board at that time. We are thankful to the Mover of this Bill because he has appreciated this recommendation and accepted it.

The second change that has been proposed in this Bill is the alteration in the constitution of the Silk Board. Provision has been made in this Bill to give representation to both Houses of Parliament. Provision is also there for the representation of labour. Although some very important and welcome changes have been incorporated in this Bill, yet, I do not regard that the composition of the Board is entirely satisfactory. My complaint is that the representation of the producers of raw silk is utterly inadequate and insufficient. In this respect, I must submit that a great injustice has been done to the producers of raw silk. The raw silk producers are the foundation and the most important components of the silk industry. They form the foundation, so to say, upon which the whole edifice of the silk industry has to be built. But, what is the representation that these raw silk producers have got in the Board? In a Board consisting of 36 members, they have not even three members as their representatives. Can anybody deny the fact that a great injustice has been done to the raw silk producers in the country? I appeal to the hon. Minister who is piloting the Bill to redress this grievance of the raw silk producers.

Another important change that has been proposed is with regard to the financial control of Parliament upon the expenditure of this Board. Provision has been made in this Bill to credit the proceeds of the cess imposed upon filature silk and spun silk to the Consolidated Fund of India. As this cess has not been imposed by the Central Government, this provision has got no practical bearing at present. But, it cannot be denied that it is very

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important that provision should be made to give this House a handle to exert its financial control over the expenditure of autonomous bodies like the Silk Board, Tea Board, etc.

This brings me, once again, to the question of the different cesses that have been imposed by the Central Government in this country. The total amount of the proceeds of these different cesses amounts to a huge sum of money, not less than 70 or 80 crores of rupees. They are collected by the Central Government and given into the hands of autonomous bodies like the Tea Board, Coffee Board, etc. The Legislature formerly had no financial control at all upon the expenditure of the cesses. Complaints were made on the floor of this House and as a result of these complaints, now we find that gradually, one by one these expenditures are being controlled to some extent by this House.

In the present case, you will find that the proceeds of the cess to be imposed upon filature silk and spun silk will be credited to the Consolidated Fund of India. As the withdrawal from this Consolidated Fund will be in the form of Demands for Grants, this House will get an opportunity to examine and discuss the expenditure of these grants during the time of Budget but I do not think that by one such provision the financial control of Parliament on the expenditure of the cesses is complete. Parliamentary control upon the expenditure is effected in two ways; firstly, when permission is sought to withdraw the money from the Consolidated Fund in the form of Demands for Grants and secondly, when Parliament exerts its financial control upon the expenditure through the Public Accounts Committee. That Committee examines the Auditor-General's report which in its turn examines the accounts of expenditure of the money spent. But in this case only one of these two requisites has been provided. Only the proceeds of the cesses will be credited to the Consolidated Fund of India and so this House will get an opportunity of discussing these expenditures at the time of Budget only, that is, before the expenditures are made. But, as the Auditor-General has not been associated with the audit of the accounts, the expenditure of the Board will not come before the Public Accounts Committee and so in that respect one of the requisites has not been fulfilled. It may be said that the Auditor-General has a right to examine the accounts of any autonomous body but I am not speaking of the right of the Auditor-General. I am speaking of the actual association of the Auditor-General with the examination, of the accounts of the cesses that are imposed. I referred to this matter when the Tea Bill was discussed on the floor of this House and you, Sir, who were in the Chair, were very kind to recommend to the hon. Minister who was piloting the Bill then that it was a very important matter and provision should be made to associate the Auditor-General with the audit of the accounts of the Tea Board. Here also we find that the same thing has been done. No arrangements have been made to associate the Auditor-General with the audit of the accounts. I do not understand why the Government is afraid of the Auditor-General and the Public Accounts Committee. Why are they so reluctant to associate the Auditor-General of India with the audit of accounts of these Boards? I hope they will rectify this.

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल (बिलासपर) : उद्योग विभाग के मंत्री जी जो तरमीम (संशोधन) सिल्क बोर्ड पर लाए हैं इस का मैं स्वागत करता हूं । उनका ध्यान मैं इस तरफ़ आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं कि सिल्क बोर्ड की स्थापना १९४९ में जब हुई उस के बाद किसी क़िस्म का ख्याल टसर कोसा की जो इंडस्ट्री है उसकी तरक्की की तरफ़ नहीं गया । आज जो यह कोसा टसर की इंडस्ट्री है उसका हिन्दुस्तान के कई भागों में जोरों से व्यापार होता है । अगर उस के ऊपर आप अपनी

ज़रा निगाह डालें तो आप को मालूम होगा कि वह हर प्रान्त में कितनी ज्यादा तादाद में टसर या कोसा हिन्दुस्तान के दूसरे हिस्सों में भेजा जाता है और साथ ही साथ हिन्दुस्तान के बाहर भी भेजा जाता है। मैं यह कहूंगा कि आप जो तरमीम लाए हैं उस में कोसा टसर को भी शामिल करना चाहिये ताकि जो वहां के टसर कोसा का काम करने वाले लोग हैं और जो इस उद्योग धंधे में लगे हुए हैं, उन को इस से प्रोत्साहन मिले कि वे अपने इन धंधों में लगे रहें। इस वक्त देश में जो बेकारी चारों तरफ ज़ोरों से बढ़ रही है उस पर भी आप ग़ौर से ध्यान देवें। अगर इस सिल्क बोर्ड की तरमीम में कोसा टसर को शामिल नहीं किया तो मैं समझता हूं कि उस से बेकारी बहुत ज्यादा बढ़ जायगी और कोसा टसर के जो व्यापारी हैं उन लोगों को और जो इस का काम करने वाले हैं उनको बहुत ज्यादा धक्का पहुंचेगा। और एक नई समस्या सरकार के लिये खड़ी हो जावेगी।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपका ध्यान इस सम्बन्ध में खास कर मध्य प्रदेश के उन जगहों की तरफ़ दिलाना चाहता हूं जहां कि सबसे ज्यादा तादाद में टसर कोसा पैदा किया जाता है, कटघोरा, छुरी, चांपा, खोखरा, बलौदा, सारंगगढ़, जांजगीर, रायगढ़ इत्यादि जगहों में काफ़ी तादाद में कोसा टसर बनता है। मैं तो मंत्री महोदय से इस बात की भी प्रार्थना करूंगा कि दूसरे प्रान्तों की जो सरकारें हैं उन को लिखें, और मालूम करें, वहां पर मर्दुमशुमारी (जनगणना) कर के कि आखिर कोसा टसर बनाने वाले वहां कितने हैं। यह मर्दुमशुमारी मालूम करने पर जहां तक हो सके उनकी जो रजिस्टर्ड संस्थाएं हों उनको भी इस बोर्ड में नुमायन्दगी (प्रतिनिधित्व) देनी चाहिये। इस के देखने से मालूम होता है कि बिल में उनका कोई भी नुमायन्दा नहीं लिया गया है। अगर उन लोगों को भी इसमें रिप्रेजेंटेशन देंगे तो वे अपने ख्यालात उस कमेटी में रख सकेंगे।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इन शब्दों के साथ मैं आप से यह कहूंगा कि यह जो कोसा टसर के उद्योग धंधे हैं उनको आप मरने न दें। यह एक बहुत बड़ा उद्योग धंधा है जिससे हज़ारों आदमियों की हर प्रान्त में गुज़र होती है जैसे आसाम, बंगाल, बिहार, मध्य प्रदेश। अगर इस को इसी तरह छोड़ दिया जायगा तो यह जो कोसा टसर का उद्योग धंधा है वह मर जायगा। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं आप से प्रार्थना करूंगा कि आप अपने बिल में इस तरह की तरमीम लाने की कोशिश करें जिससे उनके जो नुमायन्दे हैं उन लोगों को भी इस में जगह मिल जाय।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं जो यह तरमीम लाई गयी है उसका स्वागत करता हूं।

Shri K. C. Sodhia (Sagar): We have got the problem of defending the cottage industry against the mill industry. In the same way we have got the problem of defending the raw-silk industry from the rayon industry. In this connection a suggestion has been made that Government should control in the same way the import of rayon into this country so that raw silk may get its due share in the trade. Whether it is possible to control rayon import into the country or not, it is a question for the Government. I should say that there is no reason why raw silk industry should not get help from the fund of the cottage industry that was lately collected for expenditure in that connection because after all most of the products of raw silk industry are made on handloom and handloom is included in the cottage industry. Therefore, our silk weavers can claim attention and help from the Khadi Board and not only from the Silk Board.

[Shri K. C. Sodhia]

Now, a complaint has been made that the Central Government have not been able to give as much attention to the development of this industry as was expected of them. In reply to that it can be said that when the Board has been constituted in which there are representatives of all the principal silk-producing States of the country and in which there is representation for all the principal interests of that industry, this Board should be able to take care of itself. If the Board is not going to take interest in this matter, then no Government can help them. Well, of course, in the old Act the Minister was the Chairman of the Board, and you know that the Minister is a very busy man, and he has got so many Boards to look to, and he cannot give as much attention as is expected of him. Therefore, in this amending Bill provision has been made that a Chairman will be appointed to look after the Board.

About the composition of the Board, the number has been increased from 26 to 31, but I think that the representation given to labour and to the producer of the raw silk is rather meagre and I would invite the attention of the hon. Minister to see if that can be increased.

In the constitution of the Board it will be seen that the representation of the officials is about 11 or 12. If you just look at the various sub-clauses of the Bill making the constitution, then you will find that the State Governments have been given the right of sending two representatives or four representatives, and it is likely that they would be sending at least one official from each, and in this way the number of officials will be about 10 or 11. Now, if the quorum of the Board is put down as one-third, then the number of officials would always be attending because in this proviso to clause 4 officials have been given the choice of deputing other officials in their place and therefore, I am afraid that this Board will, after all, be a show of officials. It will always be dominated by them. As it is necessary that the non-official element should look to the interests of the Board, it is necessary that some provision should be made under which non-officials should be compelled to attend the Board meetings, because we have found that as soon as the Boards are constituted, the non-official members do not take that interest which they ought to take.

As my hon. friend Dr. Das has said, this Parliament is the custodian of the moneys that are contributed to the Exchequer by the public of this country. We all know, what little, if any, attention can be paid in the present circumstances to the way in which enormous sums of money are spent by different Boards in the discharge of their duties. Therefore, it is necessary that in some way Parliament should be able to discharge its responsibility of looking to the expenditure of every rupee of money that goes out of the Consolidated Fund of India. Dr. Das has suggested that the Auditor-General should be associated with the audit of the accounts of the autonomous Boards. In this way, the Public Accounts Committee will be able to look into the accounts of the Boards. Well, I consider that both these expedients are not very useful. In the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of this House, there is a provision for the appointment of a Committee on Subsidiary Legislation. And that Committee, as it will be a Standing Committee of this House, will have always time at its disposal to look into the various items of this expenditure, and therefore, I suggest to the House that the sooner that Committee is constituted and is given charge of all this subordinate legislation, the better it would be and Parliament will be able to regulate the expenditure of these Boards and other bodies.

My submission in that connection is that in the rule-making power of the

Government, we should be able to see that the rules framed are put before Parliament for their proper sanction, because we know that even if the provisions of the Bill in other respects may be liberal, if the Government wishes they can frame rules in such a way that all the good intentions of the Act can be defeated. Therefore, my submission is that all the rules that are framed under this Bill should be laid before Parliament.

Dr. Rama Rao (Kakinada): I take it that this amending Bill is an indication that the Government are aware of of the severe crisis in the silk industry. Therefore, I welcome it to that extent.

The working of the Silk Board has been very unsatisfactory even according to the hon. Minister. Last year we amended the Board slightly in which connection the Minister of Commerce and Industry said:

> "The manner in which the Board functions and its relations to Government are extremely unsatisfactory. In fact, I have been asking for information from the Board. I have not got it. I have sent down officers to find out what is happening. Very little has come forward by way of help."

That is what the hon. Minister said about the Silk Board previously. And all the change we made last time was nomination of the Vice-Chairman. Of course, we are making some more changes now. I hope the newly constituted Board will work better, but unfortunately, these autonomous bodies and Boards have a nasty habit of following precedents. Unless the Government take active steps to activate this Board and see that the silk industry is saved in time, very little will be left. Silk, we say, is the queen of fabrics, the queen of fibres, and the queen of hearts. But the poor queen is dying. I, therefore, hope that a quick blood transfusion will be given to it before it is too late, and the industry saved.

Our silk industry is almost a cottage industry, excepting for certain mills and certain filatures, in Mysore and other places. There are several aspects of it, the growing of the mulberry tree, the growing of the silkworms, the collection and reeling of the cocoons etc. all of which are practically cottage industries. In order to protect the industry, it is necessary that the Government must step in in regard to all these aspects.

As for the Chairman who is going to be appointed by the Central Government, he must be one who will not sleep himself nor will allow others to sleep, for, he has to work with several Governments, several officers, and several departments of each Government.

Our Indian silk costs about Rs. 30 a pound, which is about double the price of Italian or Japanese silk. That only shows that our production costs are high, our trees are defective, our silk worms are defective, and our methods of reeling cocoons are defective. At every one of these stages, we require scientific guidance, and modern methods, straight from the tree-growing stage to the final production stage.

As for sericulture, in Mysore alone, it is reported that about 55,000 families are engaged in it. At least it is a part-time job for them. There is a lot of scope for development in an agricultural country like India, to have sericulture as a secondary occupation. Unless the Government take up this matter very seriously, and come to the rescue of the silk industry, it cannot fight its formidable opponents. First, as our hon. friend has just mentioned, it has to fight against the mills. Then it has to fight against a bigger and more formidable opponent, namely, artificial silk, Indian as well as foreign.

The crisis in the silk industry is affecting not only the producers, but also the workers at various levels in the industry, such as the weavers. Sometime back, Pandit Sunder Lal drew the attention of the Government in a

[Dr. Rama Rao]

public statement, to the pitiable condition of the weavers of the famous Banaras silk *sarees*. That industry has completely collapsed. I come from East Godavari, where Paddapuram is the main silk weaving centre—or rather, I should say, it was the main silk weaving centre. There was a time when there were 3,000 weavers or so in the mill there. After the war, the figure came down to one thousand, and recently it was about 40. My latest information is that they are going to lock it up. This is the case of one mill. But there used to be thousands of handloom weavers doing silk weaving. Now practically the whole thing has stopped. Though I do not have personal knowledge, the same must be the case with the *saree* industry in Conjeevaram and other places.

So, when protection is to be given to the silk industry, we have to accord protection to the industry at every stage. Fortunately, silk is not a necessity. Therefore, the Government can take even severer steps by raising the tariffs, if necessary, to protect the industry. Of course, we cannot prohibit completely the import of foreign silk yarn. Our needs, I think, are about four million pounds, whereas we produce only about two million pounds, and we have to import the rest. But the price level can be so maintained that our producers will have an economic living. As for artificial silk, rayon and other fibres, we may have to import a certain amount of yarn, but the import of finished fabrics must be prohibited.

Regarding cess, last year we were told by the hon. Minister that the cess was not levied. I do not know whether they propose to levy it now, and if they do, then I doubt whether this is the proper time to levy it. However, I welcome the change contemplated, namely that the cess will be credited to the Government of India and will go into the Consolidated Fund.

I have one suggestion to make, regarding the Chairman of the Board. I think he will be an official, but I am not very much worried about an official or a non-official being the Chairman. In fact I do not share my hon. friend's fear of officials dominating the Board. I do not mind it, provided they do the job. The Chairman must be a full-time Chairman and it should not be a case of merely the Textile Commissioner or somebody like that, working as a part-time Chairman of the Board. Previously the hon. Minister used to be the Chairman of the Board. I hope the Ministry also realises this point.

So far as representation is concerned, there is provision for one representative of the silk weaving industry. I wish that the handloom weavers also are represented in the Board, by him. I am not very keen on having a representative specially for it, I want the Government to protect the various interests, which are often conflicting, in the Board.

In regard to item (xviii) of clause 8, I would like that artificial silk also is added to it. For, as far as I can see, the greatest enemy, if I may say so, of this queen of fabrics is artificial silk, taken by itself, and also in mixtures with pure silk.

I hope that the Government will not be satisfied merely with passing this Silk Board (Amendment) Bill, but that they will take active steps to save this industry from extermination.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar (Tiruppur): I have not many observations to make. I hope that it has been the intention of the Government that this industry should continue on the cottage industry basis that it is today. While we welcome the enlargement of the scope of the Act, I would like to sound a note of warning. At present, as the Bill stands, the scope will be extended to the silk industry generally, instead of to raw silk only as at present. There are factories in this country,

which import silk yarn and do weaving, and I believe that this Bill is not intended to support any of those factories, but they will certainly come within the scope of the Bill. So, I think that the Government should make it very clear even from the very beginning as to how they expect to plan for this industry. I should earnestly plead that the present cottage industry basis of this industry should be maintained, and efficiently too.

Marketing is the essence of all industry. In fact, that is the main problem of every industry. The Silk Board, if it is worth anything, should devise ways and means to find markets for the products of the silk industry, in this country or outside, and in doing so, they must be able to guide the producers as to what varieties will be necessary, and in what particular markets. We know that varieties change very often. We know that people who were after a particular variety go in after some time to quite a different variety. If we are vigilant in seeing the change of tastes of people in this country as well as in the other countries of the world, which are markets for us, then we shall be in a position to help this industry.

There is one other matter which I would like to place before the House and before the Government. I was recently reading a book about how America is able to maintain their top production. It was made out that technical efficiency is the very basis of the great production of that great country. If we are to compete with the world, it cannot be by giving protection all the time. There must be sometime when we can compete with them on the top efficiency basis. Then the problem is not how to give protection and make the industry live, but how to make it efficient and raise the level of efficiency among the workers.

I come from an area which produces quite a lot of silk—Kollegal. In Kollegal and the adjoining Mysore State you will find mulberry fields in a large number and every house is almost a producing unit. What I want to emphasise is that the techniques of higher and better production of silk must be spread in a large measure among those workers in those villages. It is no use merely publishing bulletins. We have today invented the idea of seminars and training courses. It must be the job of the Board to conduct training courses and hold seminars in places within the reach of those villages so that they can learn them and in their daily life become more efficient producers. So, the job of this Board must be to create a greater efficiency in the production among the various people who are actually producing it. I do not know whether it has been visualised in that manner. I know there is in Kollegal a Silk unit. It is a beautiful place and the people who are in charge of that place are very good people interested in silk. But I am not sure whether all those ideas have reached the villages there. I would like that this Board should make it an important aspect of its work and take these very necessary ideas, necessary processes, and spread them among the people of the villages.

In this matter I would like to reemphasise one point made by my hon. friend, Dr. Mono Mohon Das. Small machines can be invented for better production. We must be able to pose the problems in this industry and invent better machines. And when these machines are invented and presented, we must be able to find industrialists to make those machines at a cheap rate and make them available to these people in the villages. Research in a big laboratory like the National Physical Laboratory is one thing; taking it over to the industrial stage is another thing; but the third and most important thing is that it should reach the people who need them. This thing has not been sufficiently done in this country in any sphere, much less in a sphere like this cottage industry which concerns thousands and lakhs of villagers. This Board, if it is to work efficiently, must do this job, and very efficiently.

[Shri T. S. A. Chettiar]

Thirdly, my hon. friend there suggested an amendment to sub-clause (xviii) of clause 8. Undoubtedly artificial silk is a competitor, but there are other competitors, and it is very necessary that we should get statistics of the production of raw silk and of its competitors, whatever may be its competitors. The competitors may change; today it may be artificial silk, tomorrow it may be rayon and the day after it may be imported silk itself. So, the Board must have power to collect statistics of all those competitors which will kill the industry. And if that is to be done, the amendment for that purpose should be 'and its competitors', so that this Board will be able to review from time to time which are the competitors of this great silk industry.

One more point and it is this. We know there is a great deal of unemployment in this country. The problem of unemployment can be solved only by giving work to them. Today this is an industry in which, I believe, there is scope for a large number of educated youth. If the educated unemployed can be only trained to do this work, the efficiency of the industry will go up and also our boys and girls will find employment.

11 A.M.

So, I am very anxious that this silk industry should be given a chance to be put on a more efficient and higher footing. I hope that with the greater powers which the Board will have, they will do it. I hope that from the very beginning the Government will take care to prescribe that this Board's attention should be on the cottage industry basis and not for the bigger mills which may import silk and weave on a factory basis. This, I suppose, is the object of the Bill and if that is the object of the Bill, it is better it is made clear so that there will not be confusion about it in the future.

Shri K. P. Tripathi (Darrang): I welcome this Bill, not because of the many changes which are proposed with regard to the reconstitution and membership, but because of the most important factor, namely, the expansion of the scope of this Board. It was really impossible for this Board to do anything tangible so long as its scope was limited only to raw silk. But now that it has been extended to fabrics also, I think it would be possible for the Board to take the entire field of the silk industry and devise ways and means for its improvement. Silk, ultimately, must needs come to the purchaser in the form of fabrics and, therefore, until and unless the Government can devise ways and means for controlling and promoting all the way from production of raw silk to the production of fabrics, it will not be possible for this industry to develop at all.

Recently I had a chance to see some of the small scale and cottage industries in Japan, and I found that the two most important factors in the production of small scale and cottage industries were, first, marketing associations and, second, a network of experiments. Without the marketing association, it is impossible in the modern world for any cottage industry to compete, and therefore, any Government or any country which really means to improve its cottage industry products must needs look to its marketing factor. I do not know whether this Board will actually take upon itself the duty of promotion. I find that the greatest vacuum which exists in the country with regard to the production of cottage industries is this marketing. And it is for this reason that the Government of Japan took a great deal of initiative in promoting these marketing associations. As a matter of fact, all the help which the State Government administers there is through these marketing associations. These marketing associations do not create only the internal market; they also create the external market. And, therefore, if really Government is willing to promote this industry, it shall have to tackle this marketing factor. This Board may

do this promoting or if it cannot do it, then it shall have to promote non-official agencies which take over the promotion of marketing. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to take up this aspect of the production of silk into consideration so that there may be a real expansion of markets.

The second thing which I found in Japan was that they have really a very interesting network of experiments. Until and unless you can adjust this industry and its products to the latest demands, there is no hope that the sale would expand; because you know that the human desire is highly dynamic and, therefore, it goes on changing continuously. It changes with regard to silk itself and it changes with regard to other competing products. Therefore, the changes and shifts in public opinion and demand must be registered in this Board or the Promotion Committee and accordingly, there must be research done so that the fabrics which you produce may be continuously adapted to the changing demands of the country and people. I find that up till now there is no such organisation. Herein comes the distinction between the large scale and the small scale industry. You will find that the large scale industry can contribute some money towards research and, therefore, it does something for adaptation. But in the case of the small scale industry, it is not possible. Therefore, there must be some other organisation or agency which takes over the promotion of this research. I think in this case the Government is the only such agency and, therefore, it must devolve on this Board to see what research is needed. Research, of course, is needed. Take, for instance, designs. Now, the silk produced is raw silk and it is woven into silk; there are no modern designs. The people who use silk are all fashionable people. Poor people do not go in for silk except in Assam. So, fashionable people require the latest designs and there is no system by which the latest designs might be reproduced in the silk fabrics. Who shall do it? Either this Board shall do it or some other agency must be created by the Government and the Board for the purpose. I hope these things will be borne in mind by the Government and provided for. This is a great lacuna in the whole set-up of silk production and marketing. If it is not removed you will not be able to expand the market.

I find that there is a great misapprehension in the mind of the people that Assam is not a silk-producing State at all. I think this wrong impression has gone round because of trying to limit the interpretation of silk to mulberry silk alone, as I have followed from the speech of my hon. friend Mr. Tridib Chaudhuri. I find that the Government of India also considers Assam to be negligible with regard to silk production, from the fact that they have nominated only one member on the Committee from Assam. It is a symbolic representation. Just as the Commerce Department provides only one nominee for labour because the Commerce Department has not much faith in labour; similarly, they provide symbolic representation for Assam. Actually, in Assam, the amount of silk production is tremendous but all of it does not come into the market. I will tell you that nearly 90 per cent. of the women of Assam have at least one suit of silk, which would be the highest as compared to the rest of India. Why is it so? Because, in Assam not merely the rich fashionable people but even the ordinary people have some sort of silk suit, particularly the women. The men, of course, used to have it but, unfortunately, they have become poor and cannot afford. The mulberry silk died because mulberry silk was worn mostly by men. Due to poverty they could not afford even one suit; the one suit they could afford they have kept for the women because they were very chivalrous. That was the reason why the mulberry silk gradually died. But, for the last four or five years, the Assam Government has been trying to resuscitate this industry and they have declared the grant of nearly four annas

[Shri K. P. Tripathi]

per mulberry plant and it has yielded good dividends. There is a great deal of mulberry plantation going on in Assam. There is scope also for the development of this industry in Assam. My friend Mr. Das quoted the instance of Nidhi Ram Das who has developed two reeling and spinning machines. My friend Mr. Tridib Chaudhuri quoted the two types of silk produced in Assam. But I tell you that six or seven types of silk used to be produced before. Now, of course, they have become too costly and gone out of production. If you really mean to develop this industry, then there is great scope. But, if you do not mean to promote this industry and are satisfied with just carrying on in a ding dong way, then, of course, you cannot do it. Then you cannot solve the unemployment problem as stated by my hon. friend over there. Therefore, I would request you to consider this point of view also.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA *in the Chair.*]

The third point which was raised is with regard to competition with other yarns. I tell you that in this modern dynamic world it is not possible for any power, even the Government to prevent the growth of competition. So, rayon is coming, nobody can prevent it. So, artificial silk is coming in and nobody can prevent it. Recently, the Japanese cotton industry faced great competition from the rest of the world and they have made a great decision. The decision is that a large part of their cotton textile industry will be switched over to chemical fibre industry, because the chemical fibre industry is a coming industry of today. It is replacing a great deal of the cotton industry of the West—in America. Japan has taken the cue and it is now switching over to chemical fibre industry. Therefore, you must keep your eyes open and develop these industries. So, there is no difficulty with regard to the development of these new industries. But the difficulty arises only when in the name of silk art silk is sold. That is a wrong thing. In the name of one thing another thing should not be sold. That should be prevented. If that is prevented then real silk would be sold to those people who want to purchase silk. There are people in the country who wear silk and who will continue to wear silk. They should not be cheated.

I want to quote the instance of the National Standards Institute of America. In America what does that Institute do? It compares every article with the advertisement and the name and if the name and the advertisement do not correspond correctly with the thing or its quality then the thing will not be allowed to come into the market at all. On this point there was a great deal of controversy this time leading to resignation of the Chief of the National Standards Institute, which was ultimately prevented by the intervention of the President himself. Therefore, if you really want to protect the silk industry, in that case you have to see that nobody shall sell artificial silk as silk. I do not know whether it would be feasible and proper to vest this Board with the power or whether you will have to do it otherwise the setting up of some such institute.

Another point that was pointed out was with reference to proviso to clause 4. It says that the Government officer may nominate somebody else to appear in his place. I think it would be wrong. That will deprive the Board of the benefit of the continuity of experience which a member of the Board has. Therefore, Government should reconsider this position whether it is advisable to give such a power of nomination to an individual.

श्री ननमनवाला (भागलपुर मध्य) : मुझे इस सम्बन्ध में विशेष कुछ नहीं बोलना है। मैं हमारे मन्त्री महोदय का ध्यान एक बात की ओर आकर्षित करना हूं। इस देश में

आर्टीफीशियल सिल्क बाहर से जो मंगाई जाती है, अर्थात् नक़ली सिल्क जो मंगाई जाती है उस सम्बन्ध में कई एक सवाल आए और मैंने मन्त्री महोदय से पूछा था कि इसके लिये मंत्री महोदय क्या कार्रवाई कर रहे हैं। जो यह नक़ली सिल्क और नक़ली सिल्क का धागा यहां पर इतने ज़ोर से मंगाया जाता है उसका नतीजा यह होता है कि जैसे सबसे ज्यादा घी के नाम से वैजीटबुल (वनस्पति) घी बेचा जाता है, उसी तरह से हमारे मन्त्री महोदय अब सिल्क के नाम से नकली धागे की बनाई हुई चीज, नक़ली चीज भेज देते हैं और वह नक़ली चीज रेशम के नाम से बिकती है। हमारे यहां भागलपुर में जो जुलाहे हैं वे सब वहां की निर्यजी हुई टसर बीनते थे और सारे भारतवर्ष में पहले भागलपुर की टसर मशहूर थी और वहां इतनी पैदा होती थी, इतने जुलाहे वहां इसका काम करते थे कि सारे देश में वह कुछ कुछ बिकती थी। आज यदि वहां जाकर देखा जाय तो केवल यह नक़ली धागा वैजीटेबुल की शक्ल में है। जो हमारी टसर थी वह कहां गयी, इसका कुछ पता नहीं है।

मैंने मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान ख़ास करके भागलपुर की टसर की ओर दिलाया था कि वहां जो इतनी नक़ली सिल्क जा रही है, उसके लिए मंत्री महोदय क्या कर रहे हैं और यह जो बाहर से इतनी मंगायी जा रही है, इसके ऊपर कुछ प्रतिबन्ध डालेंगे कि नहीं। उन्होंने कहा था कि हां ज़रूर डालेंगे और वे ज़रूर यह चेष्टा करेंगे कि भागलपुर की जो टसर इंडस्ट्री है वह जल्द कामयाब हो और रिवाइव (पुनर्जीवित) हो, परन्तु जैसा कि हमारे सहगल भाई ने कहा कि इस बिल में टसर का तो कोई ज़िक्र ही नहीं है, उसके लिए तो कुछ किया ही नहीं जा रहा है, जो व्यापार बिहार में इतने ज़ोर से चल रहा है उसका यहां नाम तक नहीं है, यद्यपि हमारे मंत्री महोदय ने हमको आश्वासन दिया था, यही हमारे करमरकर साहब ने, कि वे ज़रूर इसके लिये चेष्टा करेंगे, परन्तु उन्होंने क्या किया, भला वह लोग क्यों ख़ामख्वाह लोगों को आश्वासन देते हैं और क्या वह उन आश्वासनों को याद भी रखते हैं।

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह (हज़ारी बाग पश्चिम) : कब आश्वासन दिया था ?

श्री झुनझुनवाला : कई बार दिया था। मैं आपका ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं कि आखिर इस बोर्ड का मक़सद क्या है सिवाय इसके कि सिल्क इंडस्ट्री की तरक्की करना। जैसा हमारे श्री चेट्टियर साहब ने पूछा क्या उनका मक़सद, बड़ी मिलें, जो नक़ली सिल्क पैदा करती हैं, उनकी तरक्की करना है, या जैसे रा-सिल्क हमारे देश में और गांवों में तैयार होता है, उसकी तरक्की करना है ? चेट्टियार साहब का यह सजेशन कि इससे हर इंडस्ट्री को मदद नहीं देना चाहिए, मैं उससे सहमत हूं। मैं तो चाहता हूं कि हमारे काटेज इंडस्ट्री द्वारा जो सिल्क यहां पर बनती है, तैयार होती है उससे जो धागे होते हैं, उसी के लिए खास तौर से यह बोर्ड क़ायम किया जाय और यदि हमारे मंत्री महोदय और बोर्ड उस दिशा में कुछ भी नहीं करेंगे तो हमारे जो तुलसीदास भाई आदि बैठे हैं, वे तो स्वयं अपनी इंडस्ट्री अच्छी तरह से और योग्यता-पूर्वक ठीक से चला लेंगे। पर ग्राम उद्योग को सहायता देने वाला कोई नहीं रहेगा। आप तो बाहर से चीजें मंगा करके और बड़ी बड़ी इंडस्ट्रीज यहां पर क़ायम करके हमारी जो काटेज इंडस्ट्री (कुटीर उद्योग) है उस को आप एक दम से खत्म कर रहे हैं, इस लिये मैं श्री चेट्टियार के इस सजेशन से पूर्णतया सहमत हूं कि यह जो बोर्ड है वह केवल काटेज इंडस्ट्री ही के लिये रहना चाहिए और इसके

[श्री झुनझुनवाला]

अलावा और कुछ काम नहीं करना चाहिए और जितना भी सरकार इसमें इस काम के के लिए रुपया दे, वह उसी काम में लगाना चाहिए। मुझे यह देख कर बड़ा दुःख होता है कि भागलपुर में जहां कि गांवों में पहले इतनी बड़ी संख्या में जुलाहे काम करते थे, और कितनी सिल्क वहां पर पैदा होती थी, आज वहां पर कुछ भी नहीं है। मैं इस अवसर पर कुछ विशेष नहीं कहना चाहता हूं, यही कहना चाहता हूं कि हमारे मंत्री महोदय ने जो आश्वासन दिया था उसको पूरा करें और अब से प्रण कर लें कि भागलपुर की बनी हुई सिल्क ही वह पहनेंगे।

श्री देवगम (चैबस्सा-रक्षित-अनुसूचित आदिम जातियां) : मैं उस क्षेत्र से आ रहा हूं जिस क्षेत्र से टसर और रा (कच्ची) सिल्क भागलपुर को आती है। अभी अभी हमारे लायक दोस्त कह चुके हैं कि भागलपुर की जो सिल्क इंडस्ट्री है वह बिल्कुल नष्ट प्रायः हो रही है। सिंहभूम से भागलपुर में आ रही है रा सिल्क, यहां सिल्क और टसर पालने के पौधे हैं और टसर आसनगाछ वृक्ष में होती है, लेटिन भाषा में उस का नाम (Terminalia Tomentasa) है इसके वृक्ष बिहार और उडीसा में बहुत संख्या में पाये जाते हैं और यहां के आदिवासियों का यही मुख्य उद्यम रहा है टसर को पालने का। यहां सिंहभूम का जो हेडक्वार्टर है यह रा-टसर का बहुत बड़ा बाजार है और यहां से बहुत सी टसर दांकुडा और भागलपुर को भेजी जाती है, लेकिन आज वहां पर टसर का काम नहीं होता। केवल रा-सिल्क वहां पर पैदा होता है। मेरा सजेशन (सुझाव) यह है कि सिंहभूम में ही क्यों नहीं इसका केन्द्र बना दिया जाय। वहां के लोग इसका सूत निकालना, कपड़ा बुनना यह सब सीखना चाहते हैं। सरकार इस बात को समझती थी, इस कारण वहां पर दो जगह उसने टसर फार्म बनाये। एक करीब १९०८ में बनाया था, लेकिन अब इसका उपयोग नहीं हो रहा है। सन १९०८ में रोपे हुए आसनगाछ बहुत बड़े हो गये हैं और टसर को पालने लायक बन गये हैं। लेकिन सरकार ने उस काम को छोड़ दिया है, उस स्थान पर बीस, तीस एकड़ में आसन के गाछ लगाये गये थे, अब यह एरिया गौशाला को दिया गया और इतने खर्चे से रोपे गये वृक्ष नष्ट हो रहे हैं और जिस उद्देश्य से यह टसर फार्म खोले गये थे, उस काम में अब नहीं आ रहे हैं। सरकार ने इस टसर फार्म को छोड़ कर एक दूसरी जगह टसर फ़ार्म बनाये और जिसमें पन्द्रह, बीस वर्ष की उम्र के आसन के वृक्ष हो गये हैं। दोनों जगह पैडीलैंड (जमीन) को एक्वायर (अर्जित) करके यह टसर फ़ार्म बना दिये गये हैं, लेकिन उससे फ़ायदा नहीं उठाया जा रहा है। मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान उस ओर दिलाना चाहता हूं कि गवर्नमेंट उस सम्बन्ध में आवश्यक हिदायतें जारी करे ताकि जिस मतलब से ये टसर फ़ार्म खोले गये थे, उनका उपयोग क्यों न किया जाय और उसमें टसर क्यों नहीं पालते हैं, ताकि लोग वहां जंगलों में जाकर जहां जहां आसनगाछ है वहां वहां टसर की खेती करते हैं हमारे यहां बहुत पुराने आसनगाछ सूख रहे हैं और सूख कर मर रहे हैं, मेरा सुझाव है कि लोगों को बहुत बड़े पैमाने पर आसनगाछ के पौधे लगाने के लिये प्रोत्साहन दिया जाय, आसनगाछ के पौधे जल्दी ही दस, पन्द्रह वर्ष में टसर पालने लायक हो जाते हैं। मैं समझता हूं कि इससे तीन लाभ होंगे। एक तो सायल इरोजन (भूमि का कटाव) जो होता है वह टसर की गाछ लगाने से रोका जा सकता है।

टसर के गाछ काटे जाते हैं डाल काटे जाते हैं जब टसर को निकालते हैं। इस लिये जो टसर को पैदा करने वाले लोग हैं उनको आसानी से जाड़े में इंधन मिल जाता है और सिल्क की भी पैदावार बढ़ती है। इस तरह से तीन काम होते हैं। सायल इरोजन बच जाता है, आसानी से फ्यूल (इंधन) मिल जाता है और टसर भी मिलता है।

सिल्क बोर्ड के रिप्रेजेन्टेशन के बारे में मुझे इतना ही कहना है कि लेबर (श्रमिकों) का भी रिप्रेजेन्टेशन हो और साथ ही साथ ट्रेड (व्यापारियों) का भी। व्यवसाय करने वाले लोगों को सिल्क बोर्ड में रिप्रेजेन्टेशन मिलना चाहिये। और उन के साथ में प्रोड्यूसर्स, अर्थात् जो उत्पन्न करने वाले लोग हैं उन को भी वहां पर यथोचित रिप्रेजेन्टेशन मिलना चाहिये।

श्री जांगड़े (बिलासपुर रक्षित अनुसूचित जातियां) : आज सरकार जो यह विधेयक सामने लाई है उस का मैं स्वागत करता हूं। सरकार के इस विधेयक के लाने से मैं यह अर्थ निकालता हूं कि शायद केन्द्रीय सरकार गृह उद्योग को प्रोत्साहन देना चाहती है और यदि इसी उद्देश्य से उस ने इस संशोधन विधेयक को रखा है तो हमारे देश के हजारों, हजारों नहीं, लाखों लोगों की बेकारी सहज में दूर हो सकती है। किन्तु दुख इस बात का है कि आज जिन लाखों लोगों को व्यवसाय चलता था और जिस व्यवसाय के सहारे वह अपने बाल बच्चों का उदर पोषण करते थे उन का रोजगार जाता रहा है। मध्य प्रदेश में जहां से मैं आता हूं, और खास कर पूर्वी जिलों में टसर, जिसे हम अपनी भाषा में कोसा कहा करते हैं, उस कोसा के व्यवसाय पर पचास, साठ हजार आदमी काम करते थे जिस व्यवसाय से लाखों गज कपड़ा तैयार होता था शादी के समय पर तथा और भी अनेक अवसरों पर लोग कोसा के कपड़े पहिनते थे और एक कोसा का कपड़ा तैयार हो जाने पर वह पांच-छः साल चलता था, वही व्यवसाय हमारा आज गिर गया है और कोसा का कपड़ा देखने को नहीं मिलता है। जिस प्रकार से घी के बदले वनस्पति पर लोगों का आकर्षण बढ़ गया है, घी के बदले वनस्पति पर सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित हो गया है क्योंकि सरकार को उससे टैक्स और इन्कमटैक्स के रूप में ज्यादा पैसा मिल जाता है, उसी प्रकार से सरकार का ध्यान, यद्यपि उसने सिल्क बोर्ड तैयार कर लिया है, रैयन की ओर और तमाम भड़कीले रेशम की ओर चला गया है। उस की ओर से उनका ध्यान नहीं हटता। यदि हटता तो भड़कीला रेशम और रेयन सूत हमारे देश में क्यों आता ? उन के आने से हमारे देश का व्यवसाय गिर गया है क्योंकि वह कपड़ा भड़कीला होता है और जो कपड़ा भड़कीला होता है वह अधिकतर नकली होता है। नकली होने से वह सहज ही सस्ता होगा क्योंकि वह यंत्र से बनता है और बड़े पैमाने पर बनता है। इस लिये हमारी ईमानदारी और परिश्रम से तैयार की हुई चीज जो है वह मेहंगी होगी। और हमारा उद्योग धंधा गिर जाता है। हमारे देश में, आसाम में, बिहार में, भागलपुर, बनारस, मध्य प्रदेश में टसर अंडी, मूंगा, बनारसी, जरी, आदि नामों से सिल्क बनता था। बुरहानपुर में जरी का कपड़ा बनता था परन्तु आज वह सब खत्म हो गया है। उसे पुनर्जीवित करने के लिये यदि सिल्क बोर्ड ने कदम उठाया तो उसे बहुत हिम्मत और साहस के साथ आगे बढ़ना होगा। उसे मार्केटिंग के लिये, यानी बाजार में उसे किस तरीके से बेचा जाय ताकि अभी जो होड़ाब बाजी चल रही है, जो स्पर्धा चल रही है, उस स्पर्धा में वह टिक सके और टिक कर अपने गृह उद्योग को पुनर्जीवित कर सकें,

[श्री जांगड़े]

पुनर्जीवित ही नहीं, बल्कि उसे आगे व्यवहार में ला सके। इस तरह से काम करना बहुत हिम्मत की बात है। ऐसा किया गया तभी केन्द्रीय सरकार और उस के साथ सहयोग देने वाली राज्य सरकारें सफल हो सकती हैं।

जो कोसा का कपड़ा तैयार होता था और जिन वृक्षों पर कोसा के वृक्ष लगाये जाते थे वे वृक्ष प्रायः नष्ट हो चुके और जमींदारी उन्मूलन के पश्चात् उन वृक्षों को नष्ट कर दिया गया। मध्य प्रदेश और उड़ीसा के उत्तर में चाइबासा एक केन्द्र है जहां से टसर का सूत हजारों क्या लाखों लोग लेते हैं और अपने अपने गांवों में जा कर कपड़ा तैयार करते हैं और कपड़ा बेचते हैं। वहां पर सरकार ने कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया। जिस प्रकार से गत वर्ष लाख के कीड़ों की ब्रीडिंग के लिये नये अनुसंधान करने के प्रयत्न किये गये हैं, उसी प्रकार यदि सरकार ने किया होता और हम कोसा के कीड़ों के बच्चों को, उस की ब्रीडिंग को आगे बढ़ाते तो हमारा कोसा का जो व्यवसाय है वह कभी ढीला न होता। मैं आशा करता हूं कि केन्द्रीय सरकार ऐसा अनुसंधान करेगी या खोज करेगी और इस तरह का उद्योग करेगी कि कोसा के कीड़ों की ब्रीडिंग बढ़े, उस का उत्पादन बढ़े और जिन वृक्षों पर वह ज्यादा बढ़ता है, जिन वृक्षों पर ज्यादा उत्पादन होता है उन वृक्षों को आगे बढ़ाने में और उन को लगाने का सरकार प्रयत्न करेगी।

सहकारी संस्थाओं के सम्बन्ध में जोर दिया गया है, परन्तु गृह उद्योगों के पास सहकारी संस्थायें हैं कहां? बहुत ही कम हैं, बड़े बड़े पैमाने पर जो उद्योग चलते हैं उनके पास अनुसंधान के लिये पैसे हैं, कोओपरेटिव सोसायटी के लिये पैसे हैं, इंटर्नल और एक्स्टर्नल मार्केट के लिये उन के पास पैसे हैं, चिकने कागज पर उनके ऐडवर्टाइजमेंट छपते हैं परन्तु खादी व्यवसायों के पास पैसे कहां। इसलिये सरकार को चाहिये कि जो निजी उद्योग हैं, उन की जो सहकारी संस्थायें हैं उनको और निजी व्यक्तियों को सरकार सब्सिडी दे, उन की सहायता करे। अभी हाल में प्रति रुपया पीछे ३ आना सरकार ने सब्सिडी के रूप में दिया है, ताकि बाजार में उसकी खपत हो सके, इसी धारणा से उस ने तीन आना प्रति रुपया कमीशन दिया है, यदि यह कमीशन टसर या कोसा में मिल सके, मैं मिल्स में या यंत्र से बनने वाले कोसा या सिल्क की बात नहीं कह रहा हूं, मैं कह रहा हूं कि जो सिल्क गृह उद्योग में यानी जो हैंड वीवेन (हाथ बुनाई का) और हैंड स्पन और (हाथ कताई का) हो, जिसे आप खादी कह सकते हैं, यदि कोसा को भी खादी के आधार पर सरकार प्रति रुपया तीन आने और हो सके तो चार और पांच आने कमीशन देने लगे तो इस उद्योग का बहुत लाभ हो सकता है।

अभी सिल्क बोर्ड में मैंने देखा कि मैसूर से चार सदस्य लिये गये हैं, बंगाल, मध्य प्रदेश, मध्य भारत, बम्बई, बिहार, आसाम इत्यादि हर एक प्रान्त से एक एक सदस्य लिया गया है। हमारे मध्य प्रदेश में नागपुर की तरफ हजारों कोष्ठी हैं, मध्य प्रदेश के जिलों में रायपुर, दुर्ग और बिलासपुर के जिलों में मैं समझता हूं कि सवा लाख लोग बसते हैं, जिनको कोष्ठी कहते हैं कोसा के नाम पर उनको कोष्ठी कहा जाता है, उनकी सवा लाख संख्या है लेकिन फिर भी उनका एक ही सदस्य लिया गया है। मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने गृह उद्योग के लिये कुछ अधिक नहीं किया है इसी प्रकार से आप भी समझते होंगे कि मध्य प्रदेश में टसर का उद्योग बहुत कम है कोसा का उद्योग बहुत कम होता है लेकिन

जीवित रह गया है, कुछ दिनों में मरने वाला है, इस लिये थोड़ा सा पानी उसे दे दो। इस लिये मध्य प्रदेश से आप केवल एक सदस्य लेते हैं। मैं यह अनुरोध करूंगा कि सिल्क बोर्ड में मध्य प्रदेश से कम से कम दो सदस्य ले लें।

मेरे पूर्व एक सदस्य ने कहा कि टसर या कोसा और रेशम तो केवल ऊंचे घराने के लोग ही पहिन सकते हैं, बाकी नहीं पहिन सकते हैं और उन की आदत, उन के टेस्ट उनकी रुचि के अनुसार हमें भी टसर और रेशम का डिजाइन, उन का रंग और उनका आकार बदलना होगा। इस के साथ में यह भी कहता हूं कि रेशम या टसर के उत्पादन में सिल्क बोर्ड को इस को ध्यान में रखना चाहिये कि बाजार में लोगों की, खरीदने वालों की या ग्राहकों की रुचि किस कपड़े में है, वह कौन सा कपड़ा ज्यादा पहिनते हैं। इस को देख कर के हमें वैज्ञानिक तरीके से काम करना चाहिये।

यदि हो सके तो छोटे पैमाने पर यंत्रों का उपयोग किया जाय, ऐसे पैमाने पर जिस में शोषण न हो, जिसमें यंत्र लगाने से केवल काम करने में सहूलियत हो, जिसमें किसी को काम करने के लिये रखने की आवश्यकता न होती हो। बड़े पैमाने का उद्योग इसे कभी नहीं बनाना चाहिए। यदि आपने यंत्र लगाये और इसको बड़े पैमाने का उद्योग बना दिया तो यह लाखों लोगों की बेकारी का कारण बनेगा। यदि आपने बड़े पैमाने पर लखपतियों और करोड़पतियों के हाथ में इस उद्योग को दे दिया तो समझिये कि लाखों आदमियों का मरना हो जायगा। यदि ऐसा हुआ तो बेकारी बढ़ती जायगी और असन्तोष की भावना बढ़ती जायगी। इसलिये मैं कहूंगा कि इसे गृह उद्योग ही बनाया जाय और यदि यंत्रों का उपयोग किया जाय तो वहीं तक किया जाय कि उसमें शोषण न हो और दूसरों को नौकर रखने की गुंजाइश न हो।

इसके अतिरिक्त, जैसा कि मैं पहले भी कह चुका हूं, इसकी बिक्री पर कन्सेशन दिया जाये इसके लिये निजी आदमियों को सहायता दी जाये, सहकारी समितियां बनायी जायें, जिन झाड़ों में यह पैदा होता है उनको पैदा किया जाय और इसके लिये मारकेटिंग का सुभीता दिया जाये। मुझे नहीं मालूम कि खादी को एक जगह से दूसरी जगह ले जाने के लिये रेलवे कुछ कन्सेशन देती है या नहीं, लेकिन मेरा यह सुझाव है कि रेशम या टसर को, जिसको हम खादी भी कह सकते हैं, एक जगह से दूसरी जगह ले जाने के लिये रेलवे से कन्सेशन मिलना चाहिए ताकि बाजार में इसकी कीमत कम रहे। मेरा सुझाव है कि रेलवे मिनिस्ट्री को चाहिए कि इस पर ट्रांसपोर्ट चार्जेज कम लगाये ताकि उसकी कीमत बाजार में बहुत कम हो।

Shri N. Rachiah (Mysore—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I rise to welcome this important piece of legislation in the interest of the silk industry of the country. The silk industry in our country is a very important industry and it deserves all encouragement and protection in the interest of our people in the country, particularly in Mysore State. In Mysore district we produce the major portion of silk in the country. There, the growers of mulberry have been facing all round disabilities and disadvantages. They must be encouraged to remove the handicaps. Now after the end of the war this industry is facing a crisis in the country. During war-time this industry reached its glory because it received all round encouragement during that period and now since it is facing a crisis the industry in the country must be encouraged.

My friend, Mr. Gurupadaswamy, who comes from my constituency, has been always condemning the Government. He has criticised the Government but he has failed to suggest some concrete ideas or points for the development of the industry, and it has

[Shri N. Rachiah]

been his usual practice to refer to Walpole's Government, or to the Government of corruption and what not. Every time he picks out some important bad words when he fails to argue in a straightforward way. When he fails to understand the Government policy and when he does not follow what the Government policy is, it has been his usual practice to criticise the Government but with regard to this he himself has admitted that the State Minister has appreciated the work done by the Governments, that is, the Mysore Government and also Central Government. At the same time he says that this Government is a eunuch Government and it does not encourage the silk industry in the country. I vehemently disagree with Mr. Gurupadaswamy because he himself admits that the Minister has been appreciating the development of the industry.

Meanwhile this industry is always subject to crisis. As such the Union Government should take under its control the silk industry and this is a welcome phase of this Bill. As such I very strongly support this Bill because it is very essential that Central Government should promote this industry.

In silk industry there are many stages like growers of the mulberry, reeling centres, spinning centres and weaving centres. This industry is a common man's industry. The growers are the cultivators or farmers and generally they take up the industry in our side and there are very few factories in the country who have taken up this industry. In the interest of the common man of the country it is very essential that protection should be given to encourage the industry.

With regard to the omission of the word "raw", I want to say something. This is the word which was formerly incorporated in the original Act. This word should be omitted.

The Board should take into consideration both indigenous silk and foreign silk while giving encouragement to the industry. Import of foreign silk should be limited to develop or to encourage the indigenous silk industry. It is on account of the import of heavy quantity of foreign silk that our indigenous silk industry has been subjected to all sorts of disadvantages and crisis. This industry is a very important industry and the Government should encourage this industry. There are—as Shri Gurupadaswamy has said—about two or three million of people who are depending upon this industry. They must be protected during these days of hardship and crisis. If the Government, as contemplated by this Bill, want to encourage this industry, I am sure, they will be going forward to solve the unemployment problem also. Supposing this encouragement is not given or the protection is not given, I am sure, all those people will add to the unemployed group with the result that they may add to the economic crisis in the country. In the interest of solving the unemployment problem also this industry should be encouraged.

With regard to the appointment of the Chairman, I urge, whether he is an official or non-official, the officer must be a man of experience who actually knows the industry for many years. At least he must know its technique.

With regard to Mysore State, I am very sorry to note that though we produce about 75 to 80 per cent. of the silk produced in the country, the representation given on the Board is very little. Since we produce the major portion of silk, a major portion of representation must be given to the Mysore State.

With regard to crediting of the amount realised from this cess to the Consolidated Fund of India, we welcome this feature in the interests of the general revenues of the country.

Finally as I have already stated, I vehemently oppose the criticisms levelled against the Government by Shri Gurupadaswamy because Government is very keen to help this industry. The Mysore State Government, particularly the Home Minister

who is in charge of the silk industry, is evincing great interest. The Minister of States was pleased to come to the Mysore State three months back and he presided over a conference of representatives of the silk industry. They submitted a memorandum expressing all their grievances and making concrete suggestions to solve the problems of the industry. Shri Gurupadaswamy said that the Government is not solving the problems. It is only to solve those problems that Government has come forward with this amending Bill. I know the State Government and the Central Government are very keen to protect and encourage this industry. As such I welcome this piece of legislation and I heartily congratulate the hon. Minister who has sponsored this Bill in the interests of the silk industry.

श्री रघुनाथसिंह (ज़िला बनारस—मध्य): इस बिल का हमारे क्षेत्र काशी और बनारस में लोग सब से अधिक स्वागत करेंगे । उसका कारण यह है कि इस बिल का स्कोप पहले बहुत सीमित था, जैसा कि १९४८ के ऐक्ट में है कि इस बोर्ड का काम सिर्फ रा सिल्क (कच्चे रेशम) की तरक्की करने के सम्बन्ध में था । लेकिन अब "रा" शब्द को ड्राप कर (हटा) देने का अर्थ यह हुआ कि सिल्क इंडस्ट्री एज ए होल (समूचे रेशम उद्योग) की तरक्की की तरफ़ इस बोर्ड का ध्यान जायगा । जहां तक कि सिल्क का ताल्लुक है, दुनिया में जापान का सिल्क सबसे अच्छा होता है । उसके बाद काश्मीर का सिल्क अच्छा होता है । फिर इटली का सिल्क अच्छा होता है और उसके बाद मैसूर का । जहां तक कि हमारे आसाम के भाइयों का सम्बन्ध है और बिहार के भाइयों का सम्बन्ध है उस सिल्क का प्रयोग हमारे काशी सिल्क में या काशी वस्त्र में नहीं होता । इस सदन को यह सुन कर आश्चर्य होगा कि बनारस सिल्क जो बनता है, उसमें ८० फी सदी फारेन सिल्क यूज़ होता (विदेशी रेशम उपयोग में लाया जाता) है, क्योंकि बनारसी सिल्क की खपत केवल हिन्दुस्तान में ही नहीं होती बल्कि बनारसी वस्त्र अब इस समय हिन्दुस्तान से बाहर भी काफी जाता है । ऐसी अवस्था में फारेन मारकेट से कम्पीट करने के लिये जब तक कि अच्छे सिल्क कम हम प्रयोग नहीं करेंगे हम विदेशी मारकेट को कैप्चर (हस्तगत) नहीं कर सकते । खास कर ऐसी अवस्था में जब कि चीन कोरिया के युद्ध में संलग्न था और काशी सिल्क का अच्छा काम्पीटीटर था, हम ने समय का लाभ उठा कर कुछ विदेशी मारकेट को कैप्चर कर लिया । इस वर्ष क़रीब ७५ लाख रुपये का वस्त्र हिन्दुस्तान के बाहर भेजा गया ।

हम संरक्षण के विरुद्ध नहीं हैं । हम चाहते हैं कि मैसूर या काश्मीर के सिल्क को संरक्षण दिया जाय । लेकिन इस का अर्थ यह नहीं है कि एक इंडस्ट्री को मार कर के दूसरी इंडस्ट्री पनपाई जाय । सन् १९३७ से लेकर सन् १९५२ तक मैसूर के सिल्क या हिन्दुस्तानी सिल्क को संरक्षण दिया गया । विदेशी सिल्क पर इम्पोर्ट ड्यूटी थी । देशी को हर प्रकार से हम ने प्रोत्साहित करने का अवसर दिया । लेकिन मुझे अफसोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि कश्मीर या मैसूर हमारे बनारस की डिमांड (आवश्यकता) को मीट (पूरी) नहीं कर सके । ऐसी अवस्था में सिल्क बोर्ड ने जो यह क़दम उठाया है, हम अपने बनारस की तरफ़ से और ईस्टर्न यू० पी० की तरफ़ से उस का स्वागत करते हैं । हमें आशा है कि सिल्क बोर्ड इस बात का प्रयत्न करेगा कि हमारा बनारसी वस्त्र और काशी सिल्क जो कि इस वक्त फारेन मारकेट में काफी तादाद में जा रहा है, उस की और तरक्की हो ।

साथ ही साथ एक बात पर हमें और ध्यान देना है । बनारसी वस्त्र की इधर चार वर्षों से बहुत कुछ टेंडेंसी डाउनवर्ड (मंदी की ओर प्रवृत्ति) रही है । उस डाउनवर्ड

[श्री रघुनाथ सिंह]

टैंडेंसी का कारण यह था कि जो जापानी सिल्क हमारे यहां आता था उस पर करीब १०० रुपये पर ७० रुपये ड्यूटी हो जाती थी, तो आप समझ सकते हैं कि इसका कितना असर पड़ता है। इसका एक परिणाम यह हुआ कि पाकिस्तानी लोगों ने अपने यहां इम्पोर्ट ड्यूटी कम कर दी। इस वास्ते बनारस में या हमारे ईस्टर्न यू० पी० के बनारसी वस्त्र का कारोबार करने वाले वहां पाकिस्तान में जाकर आबाद हो गये। इस तरह वहां हमारा एक कम्पीटीटर पैदा हो गया। आपको यह भी सुन कर आश्चर्य होगा कि पाकिस्तान में १०० रुपये पर केवल २५ रुपये ड्यूटी होती है, जब कि हमारे यहां हिन्दुस्तान में क़रीब १०० रुपये के जापानी रेशम पर ७० रुपये सैकड़ा ड्यूटी लगती है। लेकिन फिर भी हम कम्पीट करने के वास्ते तैयार हैं, क्योंकि जहां तक बनारसी वस्त्र का सम्बन्ध है, हमारे यहां यन्त्र से बनारसी काम नहीं होता। वह एक होम इंडस्ट्री है, करघे से चलती है। मैं कह सकता हूं कि हिन्दुस्तान में यह सब से बड़ी होम इंडस्ट्री है। इस इंडस्ट्री को प्रोत्साहित करने के वास्ते ठोस क़दम उठाने चाहियें।

सिल्क बोर्ड के सम्बन्ध में कामर्स और इंडस्ट्री विभाग ने जो आज यह बिल उपस्थित किया है इन को चाहिये था कि दो वर्ष पहले वे इस बिल को ले आते। उस दशा में शायद ज्यादा उपकार होता और जो बनारसी मारकेट हम विदेश में खो चुके हैं शायद वह मारकेट हम से नहीं छिनता। हमारा सुझाव है कि इस में दो बातों का और संशोधन होना चाहिये। जिस प्रकार से आप ने मैसूर को रिप्रैजेंटेशन दिया है, कश्मीर को दिया है, उसी प्रकार आप को बनारसी इंडस्ट्री वालों के भी दो आदमी इस में लेने चाहियें। मैंने एक अमेंडमेंट दिया है। उस में कहा है कि उत्तर प्रदेश से दो आदमी इस में शामिल किये जायं मेरा यह सुझाव है कि एक तो बनारसी वस्त्र की तरफ़ से लिया जाय, जिनकी तादाद कि हमारे बनारस में क़रीब दो लाख होगी, और दूसरा साथ ही साथ कोई जरी वालों में से लिया जाय, क्योंकि जरी और सिल्क इन्हीं दो चीज़ों से बनारसी सिल्क का उत्पादन होता है। एक जरी वालों से और एक वस्त्र की तरफ़ से आप को रिप्रैजेंटेटिव और लेना चाहिये यह अमेंडमेंट मैंने आप के सामने रखा है और हमें उम्मीद है कि आप इस अमेंडमेंट को स्वीकार करेंगे।

Shri S. C. Samanta (Tamluk): I am astonished to find in the Bill that Orissa has not been given representation in the Silk Board. As we all know, Orissa produces tusser and to some extent it is supplied to my State of West Bengal also. I do not see any reason why this tusser should not be included in silk. Tusser is of the same quality as silk. I would beg the hon. Minister to reconsider the case of tusser and not to separate it from silk, as has been contemplated in the Bill. The hon Minister may say that Orissa may be taken in under sub-section (3) (i) of section 4, which says:

> "(i) not more than three persons to be nominated by the Central Government to represent the producers of raw silk and areas other than the States specified in clauses (d) to (g) inclusive."

There are so many claimants, Madhya Pradesh is claiming one more seat; that may come here, Bihar is claiming more. How can Orissa be provided from amongst these three seats? There is still time, I think. The hon. Minister may bring in an amendment so that Orissa may have representation by nomination of the Orissa Government. This tusser industry is prevalent not only in Orissa, but also in Madhya Pradesh, Bihar,

U.P., Assam and other States. I hope a further amendment will be brought to give representation to this tusser industry.

In general, I apprehend that this silk industry, in spite of our efforts by amending this Bill, may go down. We are protecting the *khadi* industry. In the same way, if we do not protect this silk industry, it will suffer. By removing raw silk, we are including rayon and other artificial things which will come in and this home industry will suffer much. Government should think on the same lines and protect this home industry as they did in the case of khadi and handloom industry.

It is my request that Orissa should be included and Government should think about means so that this particular industry by being mixed up with the mill industry may not die.

Shri Karmarkar: The discussion, as was naturally to be expected, has ranged itself to all the features of the development of this industry. I am happy to point out that it helped to remind us of the various difficulties confronting this industry and the ways to solve these difficulties.

From the observations made here I was happy to note that there is one thing common to all of us and that is the anxiety of the House as a whole to see to it that this industry is properly organized and that Government are able to contribute the best that is possible to help development of this industry. For my own convenience, I just happened to group together the various observations made and I find them conveniently arranged into four heads. Firstly, the difficulties of the problem. I am happy that the House realises that this industry of all industries is faced with many problems.

In the working out of this industry we have got first the mulberry growers and, therefore, naturally comes the development of mulberry cultivation not only in extent but also increased yield of the mulberry trees. Then comes the cocoon grower. There also the difficulty is about the importing of foreign seeds, rearing up in proper hill stations and bringing them all to the rearers of cocoons. Then comes the marketing of cocoons at a proper stage.

Then comes the reeling of it and there we are confronted with another difficulty. What are we to do as between the hand *charkha* reelers and the filature reelers? The principal drawback in our raw silk is its unevenness. It is also accepted that Japan has been able to progress so far on account of the development of proper filatures. What are we to do? Then there comes the problem about *charkha* reelers. As my hon. friend Mr. Gurupadaswamy said I attended a meeting at Bangalore, where I could see the first beginning of the conflict between the *charkha* and filature reelers. Then come the weavers. The whole problem is bristling with difficulties.

As Mr. Chaudhury rightly pointed out, our principal difficulty is not so much of production. Our artisan and other workers are classed amongst the most competent in the world. The principal difficulty in the silk industry is the proper organisation of the various processes. Research in this direction is absolutely necessary, firstly, for better mulberry cultivation, secondly, for better rearing of cocoons and, thirdly, for providing proper seeds of cocoons. And likewise, much has been said about our inadequate efforts. In fact, we brought this amending Bill because we thought our efforts were inadequate.

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Then again it is not a simple problem. In this raw silk industry there are many parties; there are the State Governments which naturally have considered this as their field. We cannot walk into the State and go into the details of the working out of the scheme there. Happily for us the Government of Mysore has about 70 per cent. of the country's production of raw silk. Other Governments are also doing their bit.

One common difficulty is that we have been very much handicapped

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for want of proper finances during the last four or five years and so our difficulty till now has been in this direction. My friend, Mr. Chaudhury in his speech suggested that we should encourage and increase the resources for the working out of the development schemes. I entirely agree with him. He will be happy to know that in addition to the rupees four lakhs grants we have been able to obtain rupees eleven lakhs more out of the one crore rupees for cottage and small-scale industries and the Silk Board as is constituted recently has also been able to render help in a larger measure towards the development schemes of the States.

I understand that the Mysore Government is contemplating on a research station on a fairly large scale. So also the other Governments are trying to have research stations. I have no doubt that Government will not be niggardly subject to the limitations of the available finances in aiding the various stages in promoting research. It is firstly to encourage the side of research and secondly the cooperation of the various parties concerned in the industry.

As the House is already aware, the raw silk growers are spread all over India and it is difficult to assist them. The same was said about giving representation to an association. I would be happy if all the raw silk growers could be grouped in properly constituted associations which would help the industry much more than financial help possibly could. Ultimately, it is the worker that is to be tackled and so, with regard to the difficulties that are confronting the Government, we will have to create the proper atmosphere. Ultimately, here is an industry where we have to find our own way.

We constituted a Silk Board in the year 1948 as we thought it might be as much free from Government control as possible but then ultimately we found that it has to be properly done and it has to be done more and more under Government control.

So far as the development of the raw silk industry in Japan is concerned, what happens there is that one girl is able to finish about ten to twenty basins whereas we are yet at the commencement of importing some reeling machines from Japan. We have located them in different centres and have found them very useful. By the time they arrived the Japanese have evolved a cylindrical machine by which the same girl is able to turn out more and more work. And that requires not only establishment of proper research stations, but, as I said, the creation of a climate so that the worker may do it.

A matter like this is one where all the activities are subject to the approval of this House year by year in the course of the Budget discussion under Demands for Grants. When it comes to execution, naturally we have to give representation to the States. I can well understand that different interests have to be looked after. The producer has to be represented; labour has to be represented; the regions have to be represented. They are represented now. But all this is subject to one limitation, *viz.*, that we are anxious to create a body which we think will be able to deliver the goods. Ultimately the activities of that body are subject to the comment of this House, because all the accounts will be before the House.

I am very sorry I am not able to appreciate the point that this Board will have many officials. Maybe it may have more officials than non-officials, but I do not think it will be a handicap. It may be a help if we have the proper type of officials. This is now a matter not to be discussed so much, but that has to be worked.

Something was said about the old Silk Board and its activities which are contained in two Reports available in the Library of the House. What they have done is modest. I do not say their work was in consonance with the requirements of the situation, but their funds were also limited. How-

ever, they were able to do some good work by way of constructive promotion of the various items required for the development of the silk industry. More has to be done, and therefore, we have come up with this amending Bill. Since the Textile Commissioner Board with the Textile Commissioner as Vice-Chairman they have been able to go much farther, and we hope greater progress will be possible. I do not want to dilate on this point and take up the time of the House in trying to defend the work that has been done. There was constructive contribution, and no doubt, there have been omissions also. We are not ourselves satisfied and therefore we are now anxious to move forward with a greater speed.

One other point that was made was about the composition of the Board. When you have a Board like this, I think our every effort is bound to fail if we try to give exact representation to different interests. You cannot exactly calculate how much is to be represented, and in what manner, in another connection, there was a discussion in the other House where we tried to calculate how much should be the representation given to the respective Houses. The proposal was three to one, but if we go by the exact proportion, it will be 2 1/3 to one. How is it possible to divide like that? Things become difficult when you go by exact mathematical calculation. We have arrived at a rough and ready means, and I think very respectfully that the present composition as suggested in the amending Bill gives fair representation to all concerned When we go by regional or sectional representation, I think with very great respect that we make a mistake. It would be a mistake for us to imagine that it will be best to have representatives of producers alone, because in the silk industry all interests are intermingled with each other. You cannot neglect the weavers, for example. If you do raw silk growers cannot sell to weavers. That is what has taken place in the last two or three years. A lady would very well be willing to buy a silk *saree* at Rs. 40, but she shies away when it comes to Rs. 80. I think in the course of this discussion we are forgetting one factor, that is, the consumer. Ultimately we want this product to be consumed, and we have to see to it that a fair price is charged to the consumer.

There again comes the question of competition of which something was said. We think of industry on a large scale. We want all types of industries. We want the iron and steel industry, the cotton textile industry etc. to grow. We want also, when we are in that mood, the art silk industry also to prosper. If we want to improve it, we have to stop its import, and therefore we have recently encouraged the starting of two plants, one in Bombay and one in Travancore-Cochin. If we are to close them, would that be a desirable proposition? Would it be entirely proper to ignore the consumer? Ultimately the industry has also to suffer a little from the consumer's partiality for the cheaper type of silk. That is one of the besetting sins or virtues of the age. People like a larger number of cheaper things than a few things which are costlier. We cannot quarrel with that situation. There is the consumer who wants art silk fabrics, there can be no doubt. If the consumer did not want it, then art silk could not sell in the market. So, that is also one of the factors we have to consider when we are dealing with this question. We have to have art silk. We cannot go back. The consumer will resist.

Dr. M. M. Das: Why should the name of silk be used in the case of artificial products at all?

Shri Karmarkar: I was not dealing with my hon. friend's point, but I was dealing with the general point which has also been made that art silk is competing. With regard to the other point which has now been raised by my hon. friend with so much passion, without any passion I entirely agree with him. When you call *vanaspati* "vegetable ghee" it gets a respectable name, but people buy it all the same. If you call art silk rayon or anything else, people will still buy it because it

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is far cheaper than silk. Recently, I have been myself dismayed by the fact that when they quote art silk rates in the papers, they call it silk. Normally art silk rates are quoted, and the heading is "silk". I find it also happens in the papers published in the headquarters of my hon. friend. When you mention silk and give quotations for art silk, it has a psychological influence. Ultimately, people know what it is. They go in for the substance.

Dr. M. M. Das: Many are cheated.

Shri Karmarkar: Cheating is another matter. I am in entire agreement with my hon. friend that the name "Silk" may be kept separate. That is another subject on which I shall content myself with saying that we shall have it properly considered.

Then there were a few suggestions made. I think I will not do justice to this House by going into details. I have dealt with the question of resources, then about art silk and silk. As regards mulberry cultivation, the House will be pleased to know that recently mulberry cultivation acreage has gone up as also the number of trees.

Then there is the question of factories and handlooms. We may have to regulate the respective places of handlooms *versus* big textile mills, but it is yet time for us to do so. That question is before us, and this House is already aware that the Cotton Textile Inquiry Committee is considering all these questions, and so we shall await their report. And in this particular matter there is also one thing which Government will accept, and that is, that whatever measures we take for the development of an industry should not be at the cost of employment that any industry is providing to the people. We shall always bear that principle in mind whenever we take any action either in this matter or any other.

Something was said about tussar silk. I am very happy to note what my esteemed and learned friend Mr. Jhunjhunwala has to say about it and Bhagalpur silk. I do not know how much he himself has tried to promote Bhagalpur silk. In any case, he promised to give me a sample, not free, but paid for.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Free, Sir.

Shri Karmarkar: What is the point in saying, "My cow gives so much milk", unless you give some milk, not free, but paid for? The hon. Member will not again refer to the subject of Bhagalpur silk until he convinces me about it.

As regards non-mulberry silk, some friend referred to the Das machine which has been found to be very helpful. They say work is its own reward, but I do not know if Mr. Das will feel complimented by payment of a reward in monetary terms. But we have given him a rich reward, by way of recognising the machine, and by seeing to it that it is experimented upon. We have placed a fairly substantial number of orders for his machines, and we have found that in Orissa and some other provinces, his machines have proved very helpful. In fact, such researches as this are our principal hope.

I think I have dwelt on the principal points that have been raised. It is an impossible task for me to deal with all the points that have been made I am very happy over one fact, namely, that the representatives from the different areas are very much alive to the needs of their respective States. Though I would grudge the compliment to my esteemed hon. friend from Assam for chivalry in Assam, yet I must pay my tribute to the ladies of Assam, about 99 per cent. of whom know how to weave a good cloth. I could not believe it unless I saw the cloth myself, but I think that that cloth woven by the good ladies of Assam beats the cloth woven by normal weavers, wherever I have seen it. That is certainly a good thing for Assam. The way in which the cottage industry has stabilised itself in Assam, and the way in which each

home believes that it should have its own cloth, are really remarkable. I was told that it was difficult for a bride in Assam, who does not know weaving, to get a husband. I wish that it is so in the whole of India, so that every home may have an industry in itself. Apart from the lightness about it, I must say that I am very serious about it, that we should pay our tribute to Assam, not because my esteemed hon. friend, the Deputy Minister of Supply is sitting beside me, helping me in this Bill, but because that is the way in which cottage and home-scale industries should grow. It is no use one man sitting here and giving orders for Bhagalpur silk, but the Bhagalpur man must see to it that he weaves his own cloth. That is the way in which our industries can really prosper, and I am very happy to find that the people of Assam have fulfilled in a very genuine way the real conception of home industries.

I think it is now time for me to finish, but I would like to say that apart from the usual conventional comment of the type that came from my hon. friend Mr. Gurupadaswamy—for whom every thing almost contained a crisis I think, excepting his speech, everything else in the silk industry was almost a crisis. I should say, with very great respect to him, that somehow or other, apart from administration, I have always been trying to keep myself in close touch with the silk interests, as he rightly observed; I am also in touch with the silk prices. For the last many months, they have been in a favourably good condition, nothing less than the Tariff Board's proper and fair prices. I think, I am not exaggerating it at all, when I say that the interests of the raw silk growers as also those of the weavers and all those concerned in the silk industry, are always near us. If any crisis occurs in the world, such as steep prices or very low prices, then that is a matter beyond our control. But, under the advice of the Tariff Commission, we have always seen to it, and fairly successfully, I should say, that our internal prices have not been of a very depressing character. In fact, last year, when a crisis seemed to develop, we asked the Tariff Board to report twice, instead of only once in a year. So, this matter is always under our consideration.

But mere tariff protection for the industry is not sufficient to achieve full results. Therefore, as I said earlier, the crucial point in this industry is research and development, and we on this side of the House hope that this Bill will promote such research and development.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

> "That the Bill further to amend the Central Silk Board Act, 1949, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clause 4.—(*Amendment of section 4 etc.*)

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: I beg to move:

> In page 1, omit lines 23 to 25.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

> In page 1, omit lines 23 to 25.

Shri Karmarkar: We think that this amendment is not acceptable, the principal reason being that the proviso reads:

> "Provided that it shall be lawful for any such official to depute in the prescribed circumstances another official to attend any meeting of the Board on his behalf."

I think the hon. Member is labouring under a misapprehension. We have sometimes found that sometimes an official who is nominated on the Board, who is naturally a responsible official, is held up for other things, and then unless we have this power to depute another official in his place, we would not be in a position to find sufficient official representation. That is the object with which this proviso

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has been put in, giving power to the official nominee to depute another official, so that proper official representation will be ensured in the Board. And this deputation will be done with the full concurrence of the Government.

Dr. M. M. Das: I beg to move:

In page 1, line 25, after "Board" insert "and vote, if necessary".

The provision in the Bill is to the effect that if any one of the nominated members of the Government is absent for some reason or other, then he will be entitled to depute some one in his place. My amendment seeks to provide that the deputed officer will not only be entitled to attend the meetings, but vote also, if necessary. If this amendment of mine is not accepted, then the purpose of deputing another official will be incomplete, because as it is, the deputed official will be entitled only to attend the meetings, but not vote.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

In page 1, line 25, after "Board" insert " and vote, if necessary".

Shri Karmarkar: I think this amendment is unnecessary, because the official who has been deputed will be acting in his discretion at any particular meeting. So, this power is not necessary.

Dr. M. M. Das: The Government does not then want that the deputed officer should be entitled to vote at the meeting?

Mr. Chairman: The point is simple. The proposed sub-section says:

"(3) The Board shall consist of the following members, namely:—

(a) a Chairman to be appointed by the Central Government;

(b) not more than three officials to be nominated by the Central Government:....."

As a member who has been deputed by one official to act in his place, I think, the deputed officer will have the right to vote. The right to vote is inherent in every member, unless it is taken away. It is in this view, I believe, that the hon. Minister feels this amendment unnecessary.

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, that is right.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: I beg to move:

In page 2, for lines 1 and 2, substitute:

"(c) four persons elected by the members of the House of the People from amongst themselves and two persons elected by the members of the Council of States from amongst themselves;"

I am only moving my amendment, but I do not want to make any speech, because I have made out the points already.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

In page 2, for lines 1 and 2, substitute:

"(c) four persons elected by the members of the House of the People from amongst themselves and two persons elected by the members of the Council of States from amongst themselves;"

The amendment has been moved. The reply may not be given by the hon. Minister, unless some arguments are given by the hon. Member who is moving the amendment.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: I am afraid I have already made out the points in the course of my speech earlier.

Mr. Chairman: That is all right. In that case, he need not make a speech now.

Shri Karmarkar: I think the hon. Member's point of view is that this portion is not clear.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: I have only copied the language of the previous Bill.

Shri Karmarkar: Is that the only argument?

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: Yes, that is the only argument.

Shri Karmarkar: I am entirely at your disposal, Sir, because we are agreed upon the contents. We want to see that four are elected by the Members of the House of the People from amongst themselves, and two by the Members of the Council of States from amongst themselves. We are advised by the Law Ministry that the wording which is there at present is quite sufficient. But if you consider, that for clarification, this amendment is necessary, I have no objection.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: I have copied the language of the main Act. As the wording stands in the present Bill, it is not very clear as to whether the whole Parliament, namely the two Houses sitting together will elect the members, or whether each House will sit separately and elect their respective representatives. I think it is better that the language in the main Act stands.

Dr. M. M. Das: I have got an amendment to the same effect. My amendment should get the priority, because it is tabled earlier.

I beg to move:

In page 2, line 2,

(i) after "House of the People" insert "by the members of the House of the People"; and

(ii) after "Council of States" add "by the members of the Council of States".

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

In page 2, line 2,

(i) after "House of the People" insert "by the members of the House of the People"; and

(ii) after "Council of States" add "by the members of the Council of States".

Shri Karmarkar: Which is the amendment prior to that? We have no objection whether it comes from him or from others.

Mr. Chairman: So far as the substance is concerned, it is the same as the previous amendment.

Shri Karmarkar: Perhaps the Law Minister may be able to advise.

The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas): To cut matters short, the amendment may be accepted.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: I beg to move:

In page 2, line 8, at the end, add:

"to represent the producers of raw silk, silk spinning, twisting and weaving industries".

I have to say only a few words. In the main Act, the State Governments were to send two representatives, one of them a non-official. But this time that proviso with respect to nomination of non-officials by State Governments has been omitted. I find from the Statement of Objects and Reasons that the Government intend to give some representation to labour. In the case of an unorganised industry like silk, labour means the producers working in the various stages of the industry. So, I would like that some representation be given to them. Of course, the State Governments may nominate, a non-official, but they should keep in special view the producers of raw silk, silk spinning, twisting and weaving; workers in the various stages of the industry might be represented and not only officials.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

In page 2, line 8, at the end, add:

"to represent the producer of raw silk, silk spinning, twisting and weaving industries".

Shri Karmarkar: I regret very much we are not in a position to accept that. In fact, as my hon. friend will have noted, we have specified under subclause (j) that one member will represent definitely labour as such. And

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when we speak of labour, we do not confuse labour with the producer, because firstly, he may be the primary producer, his own employer, or else the producer may be employing labour. In order to avoid any confusion, we have specified under (j) that of the eight persons to be nominated by the Central Government, one shall be specifically to represent labour as such, whether it is a question of employer or labour. And the producers will generally consist of all types of producers; he may be an employing producer or he may be a primary producer himself.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: What prevents the State Government from nominating two officials of the Sericulture Department. In the main Act, there was a proviso that one of the State Government nominees would be a non-official, but this time that proviso has been entirely omitted.

Shri Karmarkar: Very wisely omitted and deliberately also. Because many a time it is not a question of whether it is an official or non-official, but it is a question of the person being competent. So we want to give the State Governments discretion in the matter. Suppose the State Government is able to get two officials who they think can discharge the work better than other relatively incompetent non-officials. We want this Board to be composed of people really competent to do their job and, I think, in the scheme of things nothing is lost and something is gained

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: I beg to move:

(i) In page 2, line 19, for "eight persons" substitute "ten persons"

(ii) In page 2, line 22, after "labour" insert "two cocoon rearers".

These are more or less related. One follows from the other. Some representation should be given to cocoon rearers and I would like to have a statement from the hon. Minister on that point; because when representation to various interests has been given under sub-clause (j), the cocoon rearers who form a special class by themselves also need to be represented. If representation can be given to silk throwers, producers of spun silk, silk twisters and others, I see no reason why representation cannot be given to the cocoon rearers. I think that is a very modest request.

Shri Karmarkar: It is a very modest suggestion, but it is not a very necessary suggestion. The difficulty is this: Ultimately one can split up the whole silk industry into all those different things—where comes the mulberry cultivator and then where comes the labour in the mulberry gardens and things like that. Now, normally the cocoon grower either has the mulberry plants himself or else he buys mulberry leaves. This cocoon grower, as my hon. friend very well knows, is the man who feeds the cocoons—the worms—with the mulberry leaves. His function begins with feeding the worms with the mulberry leaves and then selling the ready-made cocoon in the market. So he is the principal producer, in fact, of raw silk. Therefore, he is naturally included under (i)—"not more than three persons to be nominated by the Central Government to represent the producers of raw silk...". The 'producers of raw silk' primarily means the cocoon rearers.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: The others are specifically mentioned.

Shri Karmarkar: There is an "and" there—"the producers of raw silk and areas". Two of them may be from among the producers and one of them may come from an area like that. But I assure the hon. Member that we shall bear this in mind in making nominations. We shall see to it that the cocoon rearers also find proper representation within the framework of this.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: Then I do not wish to press these amendments.

Mr. Chairman: I will now put the other amendments to the vote of the House.

The question is:

In page 1, omit lines 23 to 25.

The motion was negatived.

Dr. M. M. Das: I request permission of the House to withdraw my first amendment.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Chairman: Now as regards amendment No. 12, I understand it is going to be accepted.

Dr. M. M. Das: It is No. 2, Sir.

Mr. Chairman: As between No. 2 and No. 12, there is no difference.

Dr. M. M. Das: But as it is No. 2, I ought to get the priority.

Shri Biswas: He wants the credit for himself.

Mr. Chairman: Does the hon. Member, Mr. Tridib Chaudhuri agree?

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: I give the credit to Dr. Das.

Mr. Chairman: Shall I take it that it is acceptable to him?

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Chairman: Then, I put amendment No. 2 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

In page 2, line 2,

(i) after "House of the People" insert "by the members of the House of the People"; and

(ii) after "Council of States" add "by the members of the Council of States".

The motion was adopted.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: I beg leave to withdraw my amendment regarding addition of certain words in page 2, line 8.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That clause 4, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 5 and 6 were added to the Bill.

Clause 7.— (*Amendment of section 10 etc.*)

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy (Salem): I beg to move:

In page 2, after line 43, insert:

"(8) The Central Government shall place before Parliament a full statement of accounts embodied in an annual report of the working of the Board."

This Parliament has been creating a number of Boards, the Silk Board, Coffee Board, Tea Board, Coir Board, and so on. We exactly do not know what takes place in these Boards, how these Boards function, what they do and what they do not do. It would be necessary for us to know exactly what progress has been made in several directions by these Boards. Further, apart from the annual report as to the working of the Board, we must also have a full statement of accounts. Moneys are collected; what for they are spent, where they are spent, in which provinces they are spent, and whether it is in proportion to the needs of a particular State or not—all these we must have knowledge of. I need not argue much about this point. I do hope the Government will be pleased to accept this amendment.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am afraid there is a little misconception in the mind of the hon. Member who moved this amendment. If it is a question of the report of the working of the Board being placed before the House, I think even without a statutory provision I am quite prepared to agree to it. So far as the accounts of the Board are concerned, they form part of the accounts of the Government. The moneys that are spent by

[Shri T. T. Krishnamachari]

the Board are moneys that come out of the Budget Grants. Out of the total Grant, grants are made by the Commerce and Industry Ministry to the Board. Therefore, so far as expenditure is concerned, the Board has not got a separate indentity. Strictly speaking, it is an attached office. If my hon. friend had known about it he would not have asked for the accounts to be placed on the Table of the House. There are no separate accounts as such. So far as the Report is concerned, I am quite prepared to give an assurance that I shall certainly place on the Table of the House a report on the working of this Board, even without a statutory provision. The rules are stringent enough to compel Government to carry out their assurances because these assurances are being scrutinised. I do hope the hon. Member will accept my assurance and not press the amendment.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I am well aware that it forms part of the Consolidated Fund and the Budget but it is not easy to cull out these facts from the four bulky volumes and find out what is what and which is where.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The report about the working of the Board would certainly show that Rs. 40,000 was given to a particular State for a specific purpose and Rs. 20,000 was given to some other Government for some other purpose. All these things will be mentioned, but it would not be in the form of a balance-sheet, which, I think, my hon. friend has in mind.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I accept the assurance and I do not press this amendment.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That clause 7 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 7 was added to the Bill.

Clause 8.—*(Amendment of section 13 etc.)*

Shri K. C. Sodhia: I beg to move:

In page 3, line 4, at the end, add:

"and the circumstances under which one official member may depute another on his behalf".

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It cannot be made.

Shri Karmarkar: We cannot define the circumstances. He may have some other work.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: In the clause there are the words 'prescribed circumstances'.

"Provided that it shall be lawful for any such official to depute in the prescribed circumstances ....."

Now, these circumstances have to be prescribed under the law. Therefore, my amendment is that under the rule-making power of the Government the circumstances should be clearly put down.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The point really is this. It may be that one officer has got a headache or developed temperature or is suffering from measles or has got flu. We cannot now really say in the rules the exact circumstances, the type of illness etc. which will prevent one officer from attending or it may be that due to exigencies of work he may not be able to attend. So far as a Government officer is deputed it is within the competence of Government. It is not a question of a substitution for some non-official member. Then whatever my hon. friend says would certainly be correct. In regard to a Government officer one Deputy Secretary is as good as another. I do not see why my hon. friend should be so exercised in his mind about our having to delineate precisely the circumstances under which we change officers. In fact, we need not do that at all. We can say, a Deputy Secretary doing silk work. He can be transferred to another place and another man can be put in

So the circumstances and the explanation of the circumstances in the rules will not tie down the Government. I think it is superfluous.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: I want to know exactly why the Government wants one officer to appoint another officer in his stead. If the circumstances are not proper to be put down in the body of the Act itself, one officer may send another officer out of his own sweet will and in this way the nomination of the officer by name or designation would be defeated altogether.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

In page 3, line 4, at the end, add:

"and the circumstances under which one official member may depute another on his behalf".

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: If my hon. friend is very keen about it we will put it in but it does not gain anything.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: I beg to move:

In page 3, line 13, at the end, add:

"and for the vacation of seat by a member in consequence of specified non-attendance".

As I said already, if the quorum of the Board is fixed as one-third, then it will be an official body. Therefore, in order to secure the attendance of the non-official members we ought to make some such provision in the Act itself, that the absence for three consecutive meetings or for two consecutive meetings would disqualify a member from retaining his seat. If we make a provision like that, then it is quite likely that the interest and attendance of the non-official members in the deliberations of the Board would be better and it may secure the object of the Bill.

Shri Biswas: The enumeration of the various clauses is not exhaustive and it will always be open to the Government to frame rules on other matters as well.

Shri Karmarkar: We have not found it to be necessary because normally the members attend the meetings.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

In page 3, line 13, at the end, add:

"and for the vacation of seat by a member in consequence of specified non-attendance".

Dr. M. M. Das: I beg to move:

In page 3, line 22, after "such accounts" add:

"in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India".

The clause reads:

"(viii) the maintenance of the accounts of income and expenditure of the Board and the audit of such accounts;"

My amendment proposes to add the words:

"in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India".

As we know, the financial control of Parliament upon the Governmental expenditure is effected in two ways. Two requisites are necessary to complete the financial control of Parliament over Governmental expenditure. One is before the expenditure, that is when the permission of the House is taken to withdraw the money from the Consolidated Fund of India in the form of Demands for Grants. This House gets an opportunity to discuss the manner in which the money will be spent—during the time of the Budget. The second requisite is that when the money has already been spent the accounts will be examined. The Auditor-General will place a report of his examination of the accounts and this report will be taken up by the Public Accounts Committee and examined. Now, so far as the provision of audit in this Bill is concerned, the first requisite has been fulfilled. The cess will be created to the Consolidated Fund of India and so this House will get an opportunity of discussing the expenditure during the Budget. But, as the Auditor-

[Dr. M. M. Das]

General has not been associated with the audit of these accounts, the Public Accounts Committee will get no opportunity to examine the expenditure of the Board. My amendment proposes to give that opportunity to this House. I hope the hon. Minister will accept my amendment.

I refer to a similar matter. When the Tea Bill was considered and discussed on the floor of this House, the Deputy-Speaker, who was in the Chair, also recommended to the hon. Minister who was piloting the Bill that a similar provision should be there. As the Minister in charge of Commerce and Industry, the senior partner of the Minister of Commerce, was then absent, so perhaps the hon. Minister could not give his decision. Here also I find that there is no provision to associate the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India with the audit of the accounts. I suggest that such a provision should be made.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

In page 3, line 22, after "such accounts" add:

"in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India".

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: There is an over-all control exercised by the Comptroller and Auditor-General in regard to all Government moneys. Normally all these audits are carried out by officials. I do not know if the Comptroller and Auditor-General will accept the additional responsibility of scrutinising these accounts, or laying down the form in which the accounts should be maintained and all that sort of thing. He will certainly pronounce a verdict if anything goes wrong in his general view of how the moneys of Government are kept and accounted for. I think it seems to be an unnecessary precaution, considering that Parliamentary control will be exercised over the Board and general control by the Comptroller and Auditor-General always exists. It is needless to mention the form in which it should be submitted to him. It might throw an additional burden on him which may not be necessary. I do not think Government will be in a position to accept the amendment. But at the same time, I give an assurance that there is nothing that we could do to prevent the Comptroller and Auditor-General from getting at the accounts of any of the attached offices and inspecting them.

Dr. M. M. Das: We have seen that in bodies like the Industrial Finance Corporation and others, private audit firms have been appointed to audit the accounts. The appointment of these private audit firms was made in consultation with the Auditor-General. But here, in the original Act we find that the auditors will be appointed without consulting the Auditor-General.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: No private auditor can audit the accounts of an attached Government office. It has got to be done by somebody connected with Government. If the Board is situated in Bombay, the Accountant-General, Bombay, will be the officer who will look into its accounts, so long as accounts and audit are not separated.

Dr. M. M. Das: Am I to understand that the auditors will be Government auditors?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Of course.

Dr. M. M. Das: Is there any provision to that effect in this Bill or the original Act?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The money belongs to Government. No private auditor can go and audit the accounts of an attached office. The Silk Board will be an attached office: it will not be an independent office.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: Sir, I do not wish to move the first part of my amendment, but I wish to move the second part.

I beg to move:

In page 3, after line 48, add:

"(2) after sub-section (2) of section 13, the following new sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

'(3) The rules made under sub-section (2) shall be laid before Parliament'."

This is a very necessary amendment and I think Government will accept it.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: We accept that amendment.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I beg to move:

In page 3, after line 48, insert:

"(3) The rules made under this section shall be laid before Parliament prior to publication in the official Gazette."

In moving this amendment, I do not wish to raise the general question.

Mr. Chairman: But the hon. Member's amendment is the same as the one moved by Mr. Sodhia except for the words "prior to publication in the official Gazette".

Shri Karmarkar: Supposing Parliament is not sitting? Are we to hold up the rules till Parliament assembles?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The practice is always to place the rules on the Table of the House and any hon. Member can raise the issue. Moreover, prior publication does not have any value attached to it, because the rules can always be changed by Government. If Parliament wants we will change the rules. So, while we have accepted the amendment of Mr. Sodhia, I do not think Mr. Ramaswamy's amendment is necessary.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Why I use the words "prior to publication in the official Gazette" is this. This House will have an opportunity of going into the rules and seeing whether they are in conformity with the principles laid down in the Bill.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The hon. Member is not perhaps aware of the fact that under the Rules of Business there is a Committee which is to come into being which will scrutinise all delegated legislation. The idea is that whenever that Committee scrutinises and wants certain rules to be changed Government will change the rules. So placing the rules before the House prior to publication will only mean delay. Parliament's control over the rule making power of Government is complete.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I do not press my amendment in view of what the hon. Minister has said.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then I shall put Mr. Sodhia's amendment to the vote of the House.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, I would like a slight variation in his amendment. My adviser says that it should be: "All rules made under this section shall be laid, as soon as may be, before Parliament". With that variation I shall accept it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does the Mover of the amendment accept the variation?

Shri K. C. Sodhia: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: "Parliament" means both Houses, I suppose. I shall put the amendment to vote.

The question is:

In page 3, after line 48, add:

"(3) All rules made under this section shall be laid, as soon as may be, before Parliament."

The motion was adopted.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: I beg leave to withdraw my other two amendments.

The amendments were, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What about the amendment of Dr. M. M. Das?

Dr. M. M. Das: Sir, I want one clarification. The hon. Minister gave an explanation which seems to be incorrect. He said that the audit will be Government audit. But here in the principal Act we find in section 12 clause (2), that "the Board shall cause the accounts to be audited annually by auditors appointed by the Central Government.....etc." The Government is entitled to appoint anybody. It is not necessary.....

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: We never appoint private auditors.

Dr. M. M. Das: Is it the convention? But we cannot remain satisfied with conventions.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: In any event the control of the Auditor-General is there.

Dr. M. M. Das: My point is whether private auditors can be appointed by the Central Government.

Shri Karmarkar: Technically they can be.

Dr. M. M. Das: In that case my point is that the appointment of private auditors should be done in consultation with the Auditor-General. We have a similar provision in other enactments.

Shri Karmarkar: In another connection we opposed this provision "in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India". As my esteemed colleague pointed out, the Auditor-General would not like to undertake the additional responsibility. But we reiterate the assurance that our auditor in this will be a responsible official.

Dr. M. M. Das: I am sorry. It is not correct..,

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The amendment has been moved and discussed. The hon. Member must make up his mind independently whether he wants to press it or withdraw it.

I shall put the amendment to vote.

The question is:

In page 3, line 22, after "such accounts" add:

"in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India".

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 8, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 8, *as amended, was added to the Bill.*

Clause 9 was added to the Bill.

Clause 10.— (*Insertion of new section 15A etc.*)

Shri Raghunath Singh: I beg to move:

In page 4, line 32, after "or a" insert "stipendiary".

My amendment is very short. There are two kinds of magistrates—honorary magistrates or special magistrates and stipendiary magistrates. Therefore, I say that the jurisdiction should not be given to the honorary magistrates or special magistrates because they do not know law. Some have passed matric and some not even that and have become first class, honorary or special magistrates. I request the hon. Minister to accept this amendment because this is a very technical law and it should be in the hands of expert persons. Honorary magistrates and special magistrates should not be allowed to exercise jurisdiction in these cases.

Shri Karmarkar: It is very simple but it has misguided the hon. Member. I think he can seek his remedy elsewhere. We want to recognise the

first class magistrates. How much law he knows it is for those who appoint him. I am afraid, my hon. friend has not caught the implication. If his amendment is pursued and is accepted it will mean a reflection upon our honorary magistrates. There are many honorary magistrates, with perfect competence, who are doing their job without any stipend, we should encourage that type of institution. I sympathise with my hon. friend but his remedy lies elsewhere.

Shri Raghunath Singh: I am not pressing it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 10 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 10 *was added to the Bill.*

Clauses 11 *and* 12 *were added to the Bill.*

Clause 1.— *(Short title etc.)*

Amendment made: In page 1, line 3,

for "1952" substitute "1953".

—[Shri Karmarkar]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, *as amended, was added to the Bill.*

The Title and the Enacting Formula were added to the Bill.

1 P.M.

Shri Karmarkar: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

COLLECTION OF STATISTICS BILL

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to facilitate the collection of statistics of certain kinds relating to industries, trade and commerce, be taken into consideration."

As hon. Members are aware, in respect of a part of the field covered by the Bill, industrial statistics, there is already a statute on the Statute Book, the Industrial Statistics Act of 1942. In a controlled economy like ours, at present, accurate statistics become the basis of all correct conclusions. Unless we have the right sort of data, we cannot find a proper solution for many of the problems and the collection of such statistics has to be from the whole of the economic field, including both industry, commerce and trade. There is a very close relationship between industry and commerce. We cannot be content with having powers to collect industrial statistics without also attending to commercial statistics. No doubt, we have at the moment various sources from which we collect our statistics, statistics of foreign trade, for instance. We want power, naturally, to be in a position to collect statistics of the whole field of commerce and industry and any proper action by the Government could only be taken on the basis of proper statistics. It will not only be helpful to us in matters of legislation, but also in executive action.

For instance, we had a small difficulty recently. I may cite one instance only where the necessity for an Act of this kind was felt. Last year Government issued a notification, as this House is aware, calling upon commercial undertakings to furnish statistics regarding Indian and foreign nationals employed by them. Some of the firms did not respond to the request, though by and large a majority of the firms did respond. That was an anomalous position. Such statistics could not be considered as

[Shri Karmarkar]

complete. Unless we have the powers to do so, we cannot always be sure that correct statistics have been compiled. It is felt therefore that Government should have powers to call for any statistical information required by them from all firms engaged in trade and industry in the country. As I said, there is already a statute on the Statute Book. This Bill will replace the Industrial Statistics Act of 1942. That Act empowers the Provincial Governments to collect statistics only with regard to factories. The Bill now before the House is wider in scope and gives powers to the Central Government as well as the State Governments to collect statistics with regard to any matter concerning any industry or class of industries, commercial or industrial concerns including factories, relating to welfare of labour and conditions of labour, etc. In other respects, this Bill clearly follows the pattern of the Industrial Statistics Act of 1942 which has well stood the test of time. The appropriate Government will make the necessary rules under clause 14 of the Bill, for the purpose of carrying out the objects of this Bill. Clause 12 gives power to the Central Government to give direction to the State Governments as to the carrying into execution of this Act in the States.

I do not propose to take the time of the House by dilating on the details of the provisions of the Bill, as the pattern of this Bill follows closely the pattern of the old Act. Similar powers are being sought. The principal change being made is that the field of our enquiry and collection of statistics is sought to be enlarged. I need not take the time of the House by stressing the importance of such statistics. In modern economic life, as the House is doubtless aware, statistic are the fountain source of correct governmental and public action. For instance, in the U.S.A., weekly or fortnightly—I forget which it is—statistics are available regarding the retail sales in the case of a specified product in the whole of the country. Development to that extent may not be possible in our country; but, to the extent possible, we should have powers to make as large an effort as possible for the collection of proper statistics in respect of industry, commerce and trade. In view of the fact that the measure is a very simple one, the advisability of which is very patent in the economic interests of the country, I do not propose to dilate any further and I commend the Bill for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

> "That the Bill to facilitate the collection of statistics of certain kinds relating to industries, trade and commerce, be taken into consideration."

Shri N. C. Chatterjee (Hooghly): Last year the Commerce Ministry took some steps in the right direction although they were not strong enough. On the eve of India's Independence, there was a feeling both among Indian firms and among foreign companies operating in this country that in the new dispensation there would be more indianisation of the executives, who are operating or functioning in British or European firms. Unfortunately, after 1949 there has been a very great disappointment. Not only there has been no progressive Indianisation but there has been reverse of Indianisation or if I may say so, de-indianisation. There has been an influx from other countries of British personnel who have been ejected from places like the oil installations in Persia and from China under the new regime. Burma and Ceylon have closed their doors to foreign commercial personnel, excepting genuine technicians and these foreigners came to India. The result was victimisation of unfortunate Indians, who have been working in responsible positions. During the last war, as you know and as many hon. Members know, many non-Indian executives had been conscripted and Indians were given a chance to justify themselves and responsible per-

sons justified the choice. Unfortunately in Independent India foreign firms are not dealing fairly with the Indian executives. Last year when the hon. Minister was in Calcutta, I had the opportunity of discussing this matter with some of the men affected and I issued a statement along with my hon. friend Prof. Hiren Mukerjee. I also forwarded a copy of the statement to the hon. Minister requesting him to do something to improve the position of Indian executives in foreign firms. I also pointed out that the questionnaire issued was not good enough and I requested that an enquiry should be made. I found that a gentleman who was a Britisher and who had been serving in China had written a letter to the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* as follows:

> "I hope that New Delhi and 'Clive Street' will give the statement the attention it deserves. Indo-British cordiality must not only be preserved but strengthened. In its own interests, and also those of Britain, the Government of India should look into this matter and restrain, if necessary, those British concerns, who, with their shortsighted policies of discrimination, are neglecting the interests of the Commonwealth of which our two countries are equal members, and also the interests of what is left of the free world."

If you will look into the statement of Objects and Reasons you will find that in para. (2) the hon. Minister himself says:

> "Recently, in order to assess the extent to which foreign owned and controlled firms engaged Indians and foreign nationals, a notification calling upon all undertakings to furnish the statistics was issued.....The response to the notification has not, however, been very satisfactory."

This Bill is, therefore, welcome and I want it to be put on the Statute Book. But the Statute should not remain a dead letter. Powers taken should be used firmly, and powers should be utilised also for the purpose of redressing victimisation and preventing discrimination against Indians.

The hon. Minister who has just spoken has told us that not only has the response been not satisfactory, but some of the firms did not even respond, they non-co-operated with the Government. They have a guilty conscience, that is, why they did not do it. You will be surprised to know that a Chamber of Commerce functioning in Calcutta sent round a circular to the different firms operating in Calcutta and in Bengal and tried to help them in answering the questionnaire so as to avoid the real issue. Therefore, it is a very important matter. It is a matter which is of first class national importance. We can never build up a free India unless we train up young men and save them from despondency, save them from demoralization, and rescue them from unfair treatment. It is vital that all conditions that foster any kind of inferiority complex should be stopped and should be changed, and anything which deadens initiative should also be stopped. Anything which drains the power of resourcefulness should also be checkmated. We want that this Bill, which is on the right lines, should enable the Government to get the powers to make the firms submit correct returns and give the answers which the Government needs, and give correct data about the Indian executives, the unfortunate people who are serving in these firms.

You will be amazed to know that in one British firm which is operating in India today, the General Manager dismissed a responsible Indian, and gave a testimonial to him. The testimonial is to this effect:

> "Although this gentleman's services were excellent, his engagement had to be terminated in order to make room for a newly engaged European from the United Kingdom."

That was the certificate—not that he was not needed, not that the post

[Shri N. C. Chatterjee]

was not needed for the concern, but because somebody from a foreign country had come. And it is an amazing thing in Calcutta—I take it in Bombay also it is happening—that raw youths are being recruited, and they work under senior Indians for a few months, or may be a year, and immediately after that they supersede the Indians under whom they were serving, and that leads to a great deal of heart burning. These things are happening.

There is also discrimination with regard to emoluments and other amenities, and these things ought to be looked into. The hon. Minister took the right step in getting at the necessary data to put pressure and to do something. Some people snapped their fingers at him, and that is why this Bill is necessary. It is very vital for redressing this very unsatisfactory situation, and we welcome it. We are simply appealing that it should not be merely taking up of power. They should exercise the power.

I shall make more detailed submission when the clauses come. For example, in regard to clause 6—Right of access to records or documents—I think even larger powers, if necessary, should be taken by Government.

I have not finished, and it is 1-15. I hope, Sir, you would allow me to continue tomorrow.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is the hon. Member likely to take some time?

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He may then continue tomorrow.

The House then adjourned till a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock on Thursday, the 6th August, 1953.